JOHN BULL

Vol. XVI. No. 407. SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1914. ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

951112

For meaning of this No. see page 28.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

IMPORTANT!

TURN TO PAGE 23

An Appeal to every reader of "JOHN BULL" to support the "Great Little" Paper

FINDON'S WEEKLY COMPETITORS' JOURNAL

The paper has now been enlarged to 36 pages, and in addition to the help, advice and hints which it gives for all the skill competitions and picture puzzles, several new features of absorbing interest have been introduced. These include Great New Serial

"ODDS ON"

By NAT GOULD.

Football Topics by HAROLD FLEMING (The Famous International.)

"Things which are being kept dark" by SENTINEL. "Without Prejudice" by LOTHARIO.
An "Unusual" Short Story by ERIC KITSON and a host of other features.

£120 is offered weekly in a Novel and Interesting Competition called "BOOMERANGS."
£1 a match is offered for correct Football Forecasts, and Cash Prizes in a No-Fee Puzzle "TALLYS."

FINDON'S WEEKLY COMPETITORS' JOURNAL

is on sale everywhere. It can be obtained at all Messrs. W. H Smith's shops and bookstalls. If any difficulty is experienced in procuring it, send a post card to—

THE PUBLISHER . . .

FINDON'S WEEKLY COMPETITORS' JOURNAL

BROWNLOW HOUSE, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.

FIRST READ THIS. If you predict the "Home" Team will win put in ink a X in the Home Column; if you predict the "Away" Team will win put a X in the Away Column. For Draws put a X in the Draw Column.

John Bull

ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played Saturday, Mar. 28th.

HOME.	AWAY.	DRAW.	HOME TEAM.		AWAY TEAM.
			Aston Villa	v.	Liverpool
			Burnley	v.	Sheff. U. or Man. C.
			Everton	v.	Tottenham H.
			W. Bromwich A.	v.	Sunderland
			Sheffield W.	v.	Blackburn R.
			Birmingham	v.	Woolwich A.
			Glossop	v.	Huddersfield
			Grimsby	v.	Fulham
			Leicester F.	v.	Wolverhampton W.
			Notts C.	v.	Hull City
			Stockport C.	v.	Bury
			Southend	v.	Bristol Rovers
			Gillingham	v.	West Ham
			Norwich C.	v.	Plymouth A.
			Watford	v.	Southampton
			Crystal Palace	v.	Q. P. Rangers
			Coventry City	v.	Reading
			Brighton & H.	v.	Swindon
			Portsmouth	v.	Cardiff C.
			Millwall	v.	Exeter City

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

16 **Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.**

READ RULES CAREFULLY.

NOTE METHOD OF MARKING COUPON.

1. To safeguard the interests of our competitors we have adopted the following new rule for marking the Entrance Form:—If you predict the Home Team will win, put a X in the Home Column; if you give the Away Team to win, put a X in the Away Column. For a Draw put a X in the Draw Column.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form and address it to "John Bull," 22, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., mark envelope in top left-hand corner, Football Contest, No. 16, so as to reach us not later than Friday, March 27th.

3. The sum of £1,500 will be paid to the Competitor whose entrance form contains the correct results, as published in the *Sporting Life*, of all the matches given played to a finish on March 28th. Should it happen that no entrance form be received giving the whole of the correct results, a cash prize of £500 will be paid to the Competitor whose coupon shows one error only. In the unlikely event of neither the £1,500 or the £500 being won, we shall in any event pay the sum of £150 to the competitor sending in the most correct forecasts, whatever the number, and £50 to the next best, and £25 to the sender of the most correct forecasts on a mauve coupon taken from *John Bull*. If the sender of a mauve coupon should win or share the £1,500, or the £500, the £150, or £50, the *John Bull* prize will be awarded to the sender of the *next* most correct forecasts sent on a mauve coupon. In the event of the £1,500 or £500 prizes being won, the £150 prize and £50 will, of course, not be awarded. The £25 mauve coupon prize will be paid in any event.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any entry. No correspondence will be entered into, nor will interviews be granted.

5. Any entry on which any alteration has been made will be disqualified.

6. In the event of a tie or ties in this Competition, the £1,500, the £500 or the contingent prizes of £150 and £50, as well as the special £25 mauve coupon Prize, will be equally divided.

7. Our employees are strictly debarred from entering this contest.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, MARCH 27.

QUITTING READERS MAY NOW ENTER.

DUPLICATE COUPON.

The following duplicate list of the matches is printed solely for the convenience of competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts made on the Entrance Form.

H	A	D	TEAMS.	H	A	D	TEAMS.
			Aston Villa v. Liverpool				Stockport C. v. Bury
			Burnley v. Sheff. U. or Man.				Southend v. Bristol Rovers
			Everton v. Tottenham H.				Gillingham v. West Ham
			W. Brom. A. v. Sunderland				Norwich C. v. Plymouth A.
			Sheffield W. v. Blackburn R.				Watford v. Southampton
			Birmingham v. Woolwich A.				Crystal Palace v. Q.P. Rangers
			Glossop v. Huddersfield				Coventry City v. Reading
			Grimsby v. Fulham				Brighton & H. v. Swindon
			Leicester F. v. Wolverhp. W				Portsmouth v. Cardiff C.
			Notts C. v. Hull City				Millwall v. Exeter City

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XVI. No. 407. Week ending Saturday, March 21st, 1914. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All FINANCIAL, INSURANCE *and* SPORTING *inquiries should be addressed to the* CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C. *All other communications should be addressed to* 93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

All remittances, applications for advertising space, subscriptions, orders, etc., should be addressed to Odhams Limited, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for MARCH 14th, 1914. bearing on its Cover the Number 009,383.

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

The Crisis—Latest.

"Mr. Balfour is playing a very good game of tennis, and has developed a fine twist service."

Fame.

According to Lord Newton, the shortest cut to fame and influence is to own a racehorse. Can we sell his Lordship a plater?

An Illustration.

"My relations with all Foreign Powers remain friendly," said the King's Speech, at the opening of Parliament the other day. Here is the proof: The Navy Estimates are up three millions; we are to have 5,000 more men, 4 new Battleships, 4 Light Cruisers, 12 *Destroyers* (note that word!) and no end of Submarines, etc. Sounds nice and friendly, doesn't it?

Fun in the Commons.

There was rare fun in the House the other night. The boys had a real rollicking time. There was Master Randles, and Master Cassel, and Master "F. E.," and big Lloyd George—and how they did go it at each other! It was almost as good as a Cogers' Hall meeting in Fleet Street—lacking simply the pipes and beer. Oh, it *was* fun! Who said "Political Crisis"? Turn him out—the vulgar dog, interrupting the harmony in that way!

Mary's Pictures.

Have you seen *Mary Bull's* Picture Competition? If not, get a copy of the paper at once. You will be fascinated—and you may make money.

"Off the Strength."

The Government had a narrow escape the other evening over the grievances—to which we have repeatedly called attention—of soldiers married "off the strength." Indeed, but for the ever loyal support of the "Independent" Labour Party, it would have suffered defeat. If Colonel Seely wishes to popularise the Army, this is one of the directions in which he must make an early move.

A Postcard from Belfast.

"Dear Sir," says a postcard which has reached us signed "Ulsterman," "Remember! Us Ulstermen mean what we say. It will not be a (b—— circus) but a bloody civil war. (Unless!) This Government is a b—— psalm-smiting, Bible-punching, mob of hypocrites." Which seems to confirm our view that the problem of Ulster is largely a religious question.

Non Olet.

The Editor will be pleased to receive nominations of non-sectarian Charities for participation in the distribution of the £5,000 about to be placed in his hands by Messrs. Smallman and Terry, of Geneva, the managers of the great "John Bull Derby Sweepstake"—being 10 per cent. upon the guaranteed Prize Money, £50,000. Of course, any Charity which thinks a sporting sweepstake—however honestly conducted—"wicked," must not apply!

Political Education.

A correspondent informs us of a recent incident which came under his notice, and which throws some light upon the present condition of popular education in regard to political affairs. It was a conversation he happened to overhear, and was as follows: "Is Bottomley putting up again for South Hackney?" asked one man of another. "No," came the reply, "I understand he is putting up for the Chiltern Hundreds—a constituency in the West of England."

Other Times, Other *Times*.

We join heartily in the welcome of *The Times* to the ranks of popular journalism; but we *do* wish that the change had been explained on less insincere grounds than the "present serious political situation." Every newspaper man knows that it has been in contemplation for the past six months—and knows why. Good luck to the plucky experiment, all the same! But one little suggestion, dear Lord Northcliffe: Not quite such a lot for one penny, please. Let us have just the "general newspaper," and keep the "supplements" for the experts. Only Army and Navy officers, Party Politicians and other idlers, can spare a whole morning on the newspaper, nowadays.

How to Earn £5 a Week for Life. An Opportunity for Every Reader. See page 23.

Loading the Dice.

When the Lord Chief Justice and the Chancellor of the Exchequer were charged before a Select Committee of the House of Commons with the terrible crime of having been concerned in the purchase of a few Marconi shares, they were honourably acquitted—first, because they had never done anything wrong, and, secondly, because the tribunal had a sound Government majority. Now that the late Chief Radical Whip has returned to England, the venue is shifted to the House of Lords, where, as everyone knows, the Tories rule the roost. Anxious to revive a spicy scandal, and at the same time to scoop a little political capital, their noble lordships have decided to arraign Lord Murray in similar fashion before a tribunal of their own choice. It is to consist of three Tory and two Liberal peers, and in the end the Tory nobles—the majority, you see—will wag their heads with prodigious solemnity, and administer a chaste rebuke to their erring brother—not because he is more of a sinner than his former Ministerial colleagues, but simply because the Committee is a "selected" one and happens to be built that way. *Isn't* it a game?

A Just Bill.

Substantial support should be forthcoming for Captain Jessel's Bill to amend the law in regard to the collection of moneys payable under Affiliation Orders. In the existing state of things, an unmarried mother has no sort of guarantee that payments so ordered will be regularly made; and in the event of default she has no remedy, apart from a renewed police-court application, with all its odious publicity. In these circumstances, many deserving women are cheated out of payments which are generally thought to be automatically secured to them by the order of the Justices. Captain Jessel proposes that such allowances shall henceforth be paid to an officer of the Court, who shall be empowered to take appropriate proceedings in the event of non-payment. Such an instalment of practical reform merits the patronage of the Government.

Wiser Counsels.

It is to be hoped that President Wilson's appeal for justice in the matter of the Panama Canal tolls will not be dismissed as "high falutin" by the United States Congress. The exemption of American coastwise shipping from the normal dues was an ill-considered stroke of policy, of a kind which might easily have involved far-reaching diplomatic consequences. British treaty rights were shamelessly ignored, and there is no disguising the fact that Anglo-American relations were seriously strained. Other circumstances have doubtless contributed to this unhappy situation, which can best be terminated by a frank reversal of policy at Washington. The way will thus be paved for British participation in the forthcoming Exhibition at Panama.

The Right Man.

When Mr. Churchill rose to justify his Supplemental Naval Estimates his critics scuttled to their holes like frightened mice, as we predicted they would. Scarcely a man of them had the courage to repeat the sneers and reproaches which have too often done platform duty in the constituencies. With incomparable impudence, Ramsay Macdonald took it upon himself to read the Admiralty a homily upon the requirements of sound finance; but no one heeds this globe-trotting mountebank, and Ministers could afford to smile. They know Ramsay; they know the difficulties of his position as the alleged leader of an alleged Labour Party—and, when there is no danger, they like to give him a chance. One good turn deserves another.

Another Panel Doctor.

Dr. David Joseph Bennett, of 213, Hillingdon Street, Kennington, is another example of the panel doctor who takes his money, but neglects his job. An insured patient consulted him and was treated for rheumatism and a cold. Dr. Bennett, we are told, made no attempt to examine him, though if he had done so he would have discovered the exact trouble—that of *angina pectoris* and advanced tuberculosis of the lungs, from which the man subsequently died. How many other unexamined panel patients this medical gentleman has on his list suffering from one thing and being treated for another, we do not know; but he is evidently not a good nine penn'orth for fourpence. It is probable, of course, that nothing the doctor could have prescribed would have long delayed the end; but the principle is the same even if, through his neglect, he is treating for bunions panel patients who have broken their ankles, or handing out hair restorer to those who complain of furred tongue, pains in the back and loins, and spots before the eyes. We haven't time for the moment to look up the exact law of the matter, but off hand we should say that Dr. David Joseph Bennett is carrying on a lottery within the meaning of the Act.

Mixed Mathematics.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has adopted the latest form of electoral computation. Commenting upon the Leith result—which, when all is said, was a nasty knock for the Ministry—the right honourable gentleman added together the Liberal and Labour totals, thus obtaining a combined "Progressive" vote of quite respectable dimensions—which, he declared, was a signal triumph for the causes of Home Rule, Land Reform, and the taxation of Land Values. This kind of thing is all very well in its way, and a three-cornered contest is admittedly a clumsy and ineffective device for ascertaining "the will of the people"; but if Ministers can, with a clear conscience, claim Labour votes as their own, it is a little curious that they should trouble to contest these seats and fight the nominees of Labour, tooth and nail. Party tacticians may juggle with the figures as they will, but one stern fact remains. Tory and Labour votes alike are cast by persons who, for one reason or another, or for none at all, are "agin the Government."

The "Eight."

Notwithstanding the "chorus of disapproval" with which payment of Members was greeted, it is officially stated that there are now only eight M.P.s. who refuse to accept the salary. We have heard a good deal about the noble "nine," and have had demonstrations and dinners and other celebrations in their honour. Is not it time something were done to draw public attention to the heroic "eight," and to make some fitting recognition of their unselfish rejection of four hundred of the best? We suggest, offhand, a monument in bronze, representing the noble octet with their feet firmly planted on the carcase of a recumbent effigy of Mammon.

For Shame for Shocking!

The cocoatarians must have been painfully perturbed to perceive in the *Daily News* the other day a large-sized reproduction of the Velasquez "Venus," mutilated by the crazy suffragette Richardson in the National Gallery. Mr. Stiggins has always regarded Velasquez's Venus as an example of shocking bad manners—turning her back on people who call to see her. The last we heard of this issue of the *Daily News* was that the fathers and mothers of all the little cocoatarians were hiding it under the chairs or committing it to the flames.

Increase in Prizes. See Our New Football Contest—Wins and Draws—One Week Only. Page 33

Deer, at any Price.

We suppose it is too much to expect the followers of the Norwich Staghounds to feel ashamed of their recent exploit. They found an outlying deer, named Suffragette, on a Mr. Hayward's farm, and chased it through Henham to Blythburgh, where it took to the marshes. Pursued by the yelping hounds along the river wall, the distressed animal crossed the stream to Southwold and took refuge in the sea. Impelled by fear, it swam about one-and-a-half miles out from the shore, whereupon Mr. Charles Mallett, procuring a boat and four fishermen, rowed in pursuit. Coming up with his quarry, he secured it with a rope and towed it ashore—where it was "taken" and led away, to provide the hounds with another burst of "sport" on some future occasion. Whether the members of the Hunt named the deer Suffragette to afford them an excuse for brutally baiting one of the most beautiful of the earth's creatures, or whether they believe that the deer was given its speed and highly-strung nervous organisation to provide them with brainless amusement at the cost of its prolonged and agonising terror, we know not. But we beg leave to tell them that it would give us infinite pleasure to see the tables turned, and watch them being chased over marshes and a mile-and-a-half out to sea by a herd of infuriated stags—and then dragged ashore by a rope round their ears, to be reserved for another run when they had once more recovered their breath and senses—if any.

An Upright Judge.

It has for some time been the fashion on this side of the water to sneer at the administration of justice in Ireland. We fancy, however, that there are occupants of the English Bench who might, with profit, take a lesson from Mr. Justice Molony, of the High Court of Dublin. A "gentleman farmer" appeared before his Lordship upon a charge of stealing a purse of money from a poor woman. The prisoner had picked up the purse in the road, and had failed to restore it to its owner, although he knew it belonged to her and had witnessed her vain efforts for its recovery. The mean theft had robbed that woman of the bulk of her savings, and his Lordship rightly took a serious view of the offence. Sentencing the man to a month's hard labour "without the option," he observed: "It has been said that imprisonment will be a terrible thing for you; as a grand juror and a gentleman farmer; but the principle of common honesty and common decency must be observed by rich and poor." May the learned Judge live long to practise this wholesome precept.

How long?

Here is another poignant story from the matrimonial annals of the poor. In 1901, Eliza Breckell married a Liverpool seaman, but in a short time they quarrelled and the man disappeared. Had they lived in Mayfair, the circumstances would have furnished a diverting *cause célèbre*. As it was, the woman must live, and in 1904 she went through the form of marriage with a man named Dickinson, thereby securing support and protection, while saving her reputation as an "honest" woman. In the course of time, however, Dickinson was provoked to jealousy and, apparently from motives of revenge, he disclosed the circumstances of the first marriage, which were within his knowledge, to the Liverpool police. A charge of bigamy followed, and at the Manchester Assizes the woman received sentence of two days' imprisonment, tantamount to discharge, from a merciful judge. How long must we wait for some cheap and simple process for the annulment of these unhappy unions?

Tips for Terriers.

Like the anticipated demands for the Navy, the Army Estimates are "up," but few patriotic citizens will be disposed to quarrel with the purposes to which the additional money is to be applied. The progress of military aviation necessarily involves increasing drafts upon the Exchequer; while improved schemes of pay for regimental officers, and "rankers," are responsible for a further instalment of the increase. For the rest, we are glad to note that efficient members of the Territorial Force are at length to receive a tangible bonus in respect of their annual attendance at camp. This concession will doubtless remove some of the difficulties which have hitherto beset the civilian soldier, and it should materially assist recruitment. It is especially welcome, in view of the disquieting fact that there are fourteen thousand men fewer in the Force now than at this time last year. The tide must be turned—and there's nothing like money to turn it with.

In Camera.

An Old Bailey grand jury recently threw out the bill of indictment against a prisoner charged with wilful murder, who had been committed for trial by a Magistrate—and against whom, it must therefore be assumed, the police had succeeded in establishing a case for judicial inquiry. It is possible that, between the police court and the Sessions, they may have found reason to doubt the value of the *prima facie* evidence upon which they had formerly relied, but in this case it would have been far better if the altered circumstances had been announced to the Judge in open court. A grand jury is a secret and a non-judicial tribunal, ill-equipped for the final disposal of a capital charge. A Royal Commission has urged the abolition of these bodies, and we have already approved the recommendation. For the most part, they do nothing—and do it in a costly and elaborate fashion; but their occasional activity is frequently mischievous.

The Pace that Kills.

Mr. Lloyd George has promised a careful inquiry into the working of the Insurance Act "in a year's time." By then, young Masterman may possibly have found a seat in the House, and so be ready to do the whitewashing. We notice that Ramsay Macdonald has abandoned his earlier criticisms, and finally bestowed his unctuous benison upon the Chancellor's bantling. Indeed, the recent debate in the House evoked no single protest from the Labour benches against the manifold shortcomings of the scheme. We fancy that, before a year is out, the benefit machine will have badly broken down in several places. It is said that one great society has overspent its estimate to the tune of £21,000 in a single year, while over a hundred smaller clubs have doubled their anticipated outlay. That ninepence for fourpence process is proving a terrible strain.

Co-operative Dissension.

Following upon the municipal strikes, the managers of the Co-operative movement are in trouble with their employees, and it is not unlikely that strikes may be declared in several districts. This state of affairs confirms our contention that private capitalism is by no means the sole existing cause of labour revolt. At Leeds, and again at Blackburn, the disaffected workers "downed tools" in industries collectively controlled according to their own pet nostrums; while in the Co-operative movement a great many of the grumblers are actually shareholders in the concern against which they propose to strike. The fact is that "government by counting noses" has proved as great a failure in the realm of industry as in the domain of politics.

"Bullets"—the Best-Judged of all Word Competitions.

The World well Lost.

Were those the sentiments of Walter Ingram when he was sentenced by the Tottenham Magistrates to seven days' for smashing a workhouse window? The root of his offence was that he loved not wisely, but too well. Not content with wooing *one* female inmate of the workhouse, he, in the exuberance of his passion, must write love letters to several. For this incipient form of bigamy he was placed in solitary confinement for six hours, during which period he perpetrated the damage which earned him his sentence. It may be wrong to write amorous missives to more than one lady at a time, but we cannot feel that six hours' solitary confinement was a punishment that fitted the crime, and we almost sympathise with Walter's act of militancy. It would have met the case far better, and have afforded the workhouse officials more amusement, to have handed the erotic Ingram over to the tender mercies of the sundry females whose hearts he had collectively besieged, and then to have placed him in the infirmary ward to recover from his wounds, or, better still, have locked him up in a cell with the lot.

A Sinister Situation.

Mr. Harcourt's recent defence of the British position in Somaliland was by no means impressive, and we strongly deprecate his repeated suggestion that the late Mr. R. C. Corfield, the gallant Commander of the Camel Corps, met his death through wanton disregard of the instructions of the Colonial Office. An officer, remote from civilisation and threatened on all hands by savage tribesmen, cannot be expected to shape his conduct by rules framed in Downing Street. Corfield lost his life in the maintenance of British prestige, and his memory deserves something better than mild disparagement from the lips of an Imperial Minister. Meanwhile, we note that no effective expedition against the Mullah is contemplated, but that the British garrison is to be slightly reinforced. We have all along protested against this indecisive and perilous policy. Either the forces of the Mullah should be reduced to subjection, or the province should be evacuated without delay. The present ineffective occupation is a source of perennial strife.

The Right to Yell.

During a performance of "Who's the Lady?" at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, a youth named William Larkin raised up his voice and bellowed loud and long, to the discomfiture of the management and to the annoyance of his neighbours. Charged at the Police Court with this unseemly behaviour, Larkin explained that he regarded the production as "immoral" and "indecent," and in support of his strictures pointed to the fact that several London newspapers had said the same thing. The Magistrate thereupon dismissed the charge of disorderly conduct, remarking that "the defendant had rendered a public service." Assuming the soundness of this decision, it must be inferred that a man who "conscientiously objects" to a scene in a play, or to a "turn" in a variety entertainment, may emit a continuous yell throughout its performance with complete immunity from legal restraint. Happily, theatre managers retain a less ceremonious remedy.

Mermaids.

Mr. "Jimmy" Glover has been agitating against some new posters advertising Bexhill and its attractions. He protests against the subject matter. "Nobody," he grumbles, "wants impossible mermaids, especially Paterfamilias." Quite right! What Paterfamilias wants is not impossible, but "possible" ones—and plenty of them. Since Mr. Glover objects to mermaids, why does he not figure on the hoardings himself—in his ex-mayoral robes, trumpet in hand?

The "Gentle" Sex.

The Yankee experiment with women "policemen" has proved disappointing. We criticised the idea at the time of its inception, feeling sure that supervision of women by women would be more likely to "raise Cain" than promote peace. Paraphrasing Shakespeare, it may truthfully be said that women "policemen," "drest in a little brief authority, play such fantastic tricks before high Heaven as to make the angels weep." Chicago's Chief of Police has just found it out, certain incidents attending a strike of waitresses have convinced him. He has found that "women dislike being arrested by other women in uniform, who are rougher than men . . . but at the same time they do not possess the necessary physical strength to quell strike disturbances." In consequence of these and other defects in the female "bobbies," they have been withdrawn from the strike area, and the stalwart and more considerate male "copper" has come into his own again. So it seems that the modern woman is more successful in arresting attention than in apprehending delinquents. Let her realise her limitations.

Take Notice.

The South African deportees have been persistently represented as crafty and subterranean schemers, wickedly plotting destruction in secret conclave. It is, therefore, somewhat surprising that Mr. Bain should already have publicly announced a general strike throughout South Africa for July 5th next, blaring the momentous news from a Hyde Park platform. Should the speaker's words eventuate in action, neither the South African Government nor the Imperial authorities will be able to plead surprise. In sudden and unexpected emergency, a civil Government may plausibly excuse the employment of martial force, but rough, panic measures will find less ready justification in the event of a crisis of which ample notice has been given. The warning has been delivered in the Empire's capital. The Imperial Government dare not permit it to be ignored.

Who Goes to Toronto?

The *Toronto Daily Star* introduces an account of a starvation case in their midst with their headlines "Pawns Wedding Ring for Food and Shelter. Family Reduced to Extremities while Husband looks for Work." The family, it seems, had "nothing to eat all day except a little bread which the husband got from the Salvation Army," the emigration agency which is shunting hundreds of British emigrants into Canada every year. "The wife, who was as near to desperation as is good for any human being to be," continues the paper, "went out and pawned her wedding ring. This morning a visitor from the Relief Fund heard of her case, and now the family is provided for until the husband can get work. This is only one case out of many." Lovely El Dorado, Canada! According to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, there are 100,000 unemployed in the country to-day.

A Surprise School Visit.

Two members of the London County Council, Messrs. Rawston and Thomas, paid a "surprise visit" the other day to Amwell Street School, Clerkenwell. Having questioned the children to the point of restiveness, one of these gentlemen asked for a short quotation from the Immortal Bard. A girl's hand went up in response, and she was invited to proceed. "Ye gods, ye gods," she quoted, "how long must I endure this?" The visitors had, apparently, uncomfortable doubts whether this was the classic textual or expressed a precocious opinion, so another quotation was asked for. Again a hand went up promptly, the owner of which cried "Ye stocks, ye stones, ye worse than useless things." Oh—this rising generation!

£5 a Week for Life for Easy Picture Puzzles. First Set Free on page 23.

"Political Notes."

It is stated that the Government is anxious to send Mr. Keir Hardie out to investigate the Mexican affair—with sealed orders to General Villa, in the event of his encountering that gentleman; but, up to the present, Mr. Keir Hardie has not accepted the invitation.

Marriage being a lottery, it is commonly expected that this great gamble will be included in the Bill shortly to be put before the House. All married members have promised to lend the clause their support, heedless of Party prejudice.

The report that Mr. Asquith's daughter writes his speeches is grossly exaggerated.

We can find no confirmation of the rumour that the Government is shortly to send Lord Murray on an oil expedition with a view to acquiring large quantities of that commodity for general use during the forthcoming Election.

Where's that Rope?

Lord Mersey is holding an official inquiry into the whole question of the provision and use of rescue apparatus in mines. On the opening day, an astounding statement was made by Sir T. Ratcliffe Ellis, representing the Mining Association and the North of England United Coal Trade Association. In reply to argument, counsel declared that although the Home Office Regulations were explicit with regard to the provision of efficient rescue appliances, *there was nothing in the Regulations to compel their use!* Had this assertion been made by the miners' representative, it might have passed for frothy rhetoric, but coming from the accredited spokesman of the masters, its significance can scarcely be minimised. Why not hang McKenna?

A Blow at Bumble?

We do not, as a rule, welcome new Parties, but the one now being organised by the Duchess of Marlborough claims our sympathy. Its object is to organise a system and machine to bring forward and support "independent" women candidates at municipal elections. Municipal affairs offer a wide field for women's work, and it has long been a matter of regret that they have not entered it with greater enthusiasm. Apart from various matters specially adapted to women's hands, we shall look to them to cleanse our local councils of some of the jobbery and corruption which disgraces so many of them, and to see that Mr. Bumble is kept severely in his place, if not utterly suppressed.

Pointing the Way.

No vestige of excuse remains to General Botha for inaction in respect of the grievances of South African workers. A Government Commission, appointed to inquire into the whole circumstances of the industrial situation, has now issued its Report, from which material information may be gathered. It is clear that many grave injustices exist, and that in all too many instances the conditions of labour are well calculated to provoke desperate revolt. The Commissioners have framed many practical proposals for the elimination of the worst abuses, and these should receive the immediate attention of the Botha Ministry. In legal phrase, the Premier is now "estopped" from pleading ignorance of the facts. He must get to work.

Overboard!

We are curious to know something about the colossal waste of food and supplies generally in H.M. dock yards. Can anybody with knowledge and a gift of calculation inform us how many thousand tons of food are chucked overboard at the end of ships' commissions during the year? There are rumours in the air, you know.

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

TEMPTATION'S TIME-TABLE.

["With late hours a species of subtle change seems to come over people's character."—MR. CECIL CHAPMAN.]

I venture to assert that I'm
As honest as the day;
But with approaching evening time
My principles decay—
The still, small voice that guides my will
When strong temptations call,
At dusk becomes profoundly still
And most exceeding small!

Then later, when the lamps are lit,
Though I may sit and read,
I feel quite ready to commit
Some dark, dishonest deed!
And by the time the clock strikes ten
My morals are so slack
I'd gladly wield the forger's pen
Or tamper with a pack!

When chimes eleven—aye, before!—
Of scruples I'm bereft,
I'm quite prepared to burgle, or
Commit a petty theft.
But midnight is the evil hour
Which I most hold in dread;
So, feeling murder's in my power,
Straighway I go to bed!

THE WEEK'S "BISCUIT."

"Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical compliment. Below we present, each week, and in all good humour, the "Biscuit" to the individual or periodical named, in respect of the achievement or utterance indicated.]

For issuing an Order stating that "No member of this Force, whether superintendent, sergeant, or constable, is permitted to go into any public-house, except on duty, whether he is in uniform or plain clothes, or on duty or off,"

CHIEF CONSTABLE WILLIAMS
(of the West Sussex Police)
Takes the Biscuit.

RESULT OF OUR THIRTEENTH FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

Football followers did much better in this Competition. Quite a number of skilful readers sent coupons containing three errors. One, however, was successful in submitting a coupon with only two errors. The fortunate winner is

A. E. AUCKLAND,
10, Duke Street,
Old Flitton,
Peterborough,

who, accordingly, gains the £150.

The best Mauve Coupon, which showed only three errors, was sent in by

MRS. BURSNALL,
Stoke Park,
Coventry.

She, accordingly, receives £50.

SPECIAL NOTE.

In announcing the result last week of our No. 12 Competition, we stated that 15 competitors shared the £150 prize. It should, of course, have been £250, and we have, accordingly, divided that sum between the 15 winners, each receiving £16 13s. 4d.

Another Single-Week Football Contest—Wins and Draws. Prizes Increased. See page 33.

THE KING MUST STOP IT!

A RESPECTFUL APPEAL TO HIS MAJESTY TO BID THE PARTY POLITICIANS CEASE THEIR FOOLING.

Our readers do not require to be assured that we are no advocates of the policy of dragging the King into the quagmire of Party Politics. We have far too deep and sincere a respect for his Majesty, and for the great position which he fills—as silent sentinel of the Empire. Nor have we any intention of departing from the sound maxim of Constitutional Government—that the Monarch must act in all things on the advice of his Ministers. And yet, quite consistently with that proposition, we assert that the time has arrived for the active, firm and definite intervention of the Crown, if we are to be spared the tragedy and the disgrace of civil war.

Distinction without Difference.

We say that the time has come, because there is no longer any fundamental difference of opinion in his Parliament on the question of Ireland. Home Rule, about to become operative under the machinery of the Parliament Act, is now admittedly a matter of compromise. "We will leave out any Ulster county which doesn't like it," says the Government, "*for six years.*" And what is the reply? "Agreed," say Sir Edward Carson and his friends, "but with this reservation: Instead of coming automatically into the scheme at the end of six years, let the Imperial Parliament then decide our fate—if it says we are then to come in, we will do so; if not, we will stay out." There is the whole distinction between the two Parties—and we propose to show that it is a distinction without a difference, and justifies royal intervention. Let it be clearly understood that when we speak of the King being bound by the advice of his Ministers, we mean so long as that advice is possessed of Parliamentary sanction; that is of the essence of the whole thing. The Cabinet, as it is called, is not recognised by our Constitution. It is a self-appointed Star Chamber of the King's Privy Council, with no legal authority or power—a Committee of Ministers, formed amongst themselves, to decide upon and formulate their Parliamentary policy. Parliament, and Parliament alone, is the guide to the Throne, and so long as it acts within the scope of its authority, the King can look no further for inspiration when called upon to give effect to legislation. For purposes of convenience, the Ministry of the day is the channel of communication, but that its representations are not accepted as sacrosanct is proved by the fact that, in all times of crisis, it is the custom for the Sovereign to hold audience not with Ministers alone, but also with the Opposition leaders—the Party system thus being utilised for the purpose of reflecting the views of the Houses of Parliament. Bearing all these things in mind, let us now see whether we are justified in asking the King to step in and say, "Stop this fooling."

Much Ado About Nothing.

What *is* the point now in dispute? Let us see how things would work if Sir Edward Carson's amendment were adopted. At the expiration of the six year period (from the setting up of the Irish Parliament) there must have been at least two General Elections. Leaving aside for the moment the possibility that by then the nation may have had enough of the Party game, and that a Business Government may be in control of the nation's affairs, and assuming that either the Liberals or the Unionists are in power, what would happen? Take the former case first. Mr. Asquith or his successor—probably Sir Edward Grey—will have just come back "from the country," after an election in which the absorption of the Ulster counties will, of necessity, have been one of the chief "cries"; and armed with his mandate, he would at once call upon North-East Ulster to "come in." It is true that the House of Lords—whether by that time reformed or not—*might* stand in the way, but the contingency is remote; for, after all the talk about "appealing to the people," the Opposition would be bound to bow to its will; and, indeed, there should be no difficulty in obtaining its definite undertaking to that effect as a condition of the acceptance of Sir Edward Carson's proposal. Now assume that the Unionists had come into office. They would simply do nothing in the matter—and the Ulster counties would remain out. What, then, is all the fuss about? Can the truth be that the Government, on the one hand, are bound hand and foot by Mr. Redmond's orders, and the Opposition, on the other, by Sir Edward Carson's—and that neither side, at heart, is really desirous of a settlement? Are the embers of religious strife still sufficiently alive to be fanned into flame at the bidding of professional politicians? Is the steady, economic progress of Ireland, which has marked the past ten years, to be ruthlessly interrupted? Are we, in this twentieth century—with all our domestic troubles and national dangers ahead of us—to let loose upon our own people the mad dogs of civil war? And all because our Party leaders have come to a deadlock over a mere matter of words? Surely the King, in such an emergency, is the key to the solution. We venture, with profound respect, to suggest that he should look at the matter from the points of view we have indicated, and that with all the authority of his great office—and confident of the loyal support of the nation—he should say to the contending sides: "There is a limit to the passivity of the Crown; when there is a *real* difference of opinion in my Parliament I will follow, always, the advice of my Ministers—*but when there is none*, I will follow the example of King Edward the Peace-maker."

Another Way Out.

But there is another, and, if anything, an even simpler way out. Why not provide for a ballot every six years of the excluded Ulster counties, so long as there are any, with the right of continued exemption to those which voted for it? That were an infinitely better plan than forcing unwilling districts into the scheme—clumsy as we admit the whole thing to be. But if Ireland is to have back her lost Parliament, it cannot be the work of a day or a year; it means a generation. There are two Irelands—distinct in race, in creed, in character. We do not despair of their being one day united. But it will not be in our time. We voted for the Second Reading of the Home Rule Bill, not because we ever thought it contained a workable scheme, nor because we even thought it constituted a basis of a co-operation between North and South—between rich and poor—between Catholic and Protestant. *That* we endeavoured to make clear at the time. We voted for it because we believed, as we believe to-day, that it just opened the door to ultimate peace, by suspending for a time the restless manifestations of Irish discontent; by affording its champions an opportunity of demonstrating their genius for self-government—and, in the experiment, convincing each section of Ireland how inextricably its interests are bound up with those of the other, and, *in the end*, how the common destiny of both is immutably decreed, by a Law greater than any Parliament can make, as an inevitable and integral unit in the lasting glory or the early downfall of the British race. God Save the King!

A DANGEROUS MINE.

ANOTHER SENGHENYDD HOLOCAUST THREATENED.

In recent discussions it has been widely contended that the zone of mining operations surrounding the Senghenydd Colliery is a dangerous area, calling for exhaustive and unremitting inspection. The coalowners have, for the most part, resisted this suggestion—anxious, as always, to minimise the attendant perils of their undertakings. Quite recently, at the Home Office Inquiry into the disaster, Mr. David Morris, a managing official, insisted with some warmth that no especial risks were run by miners engaged in the area in question. This view is rejected by the Miners' Federation, upon evidence which we believe to be conclusive. Recent happenings in the vicinity of Senghenydd are of supreme interest in this connection.

Towards the end of January, the miners at the Windsor Colliery, Abertridwr, which is less than a mile removed from the Senghenydd Pit, refused to descend the mine. Their action was in the nature of a protest, the management having, it was alleged, denied them proper facilities for the inspection of the workings. It was prompted, moreover, by serious misgivings as to the condition of the pit, previous examinations having revealed a number of dangerous defects. The right of periodic inspection is reserved to the men by the Coal Mines' Regulation Act, and it was thus impossible for the management to resist their claim, when enforced by a stoppage of labour. After some delay, fourteen examiners, appointed by the miners, were permitted to descend the pit, and the result of their investigations was subsequently reported to a mass meeting of the men.

Alarming Discoveries.

Their discoveries served amply to justify the action of the miners, and to confirm their worst suspicions. The report is a lengthy document, and we have space for no more than a brief *resumé* of its contents. Here are a few of the principal defects alleged :—

> Main haulage roads dry and dusty above timber.
> Roads dry and dusty and no water pipes on the west side of the North Pit.
> Dirty state of haulage engine with oil and coal dust.
> Headings, in general, dry and dusty.

It is well known that the presence of dust in the workings of a mine is fraught with the gravest peril, the risk of explosion being thereby immensely enhanced. The report further discloses :—

> Accumulation of gas at three headways.
> Bad piece of airway.
> Thirty yards of "intake" unfit to travel; several bad places.
> Portable engine without water casks in case of emergency.

These, and similar grave strictures are again and again repeated with reference to various sections of the mine. Upon the whole the examiners had no hesitation in reporting that in their judgment the pit was "in an unsafe and unsatisfactory condition." This view was strikingly endorsed by Mr. Hubert Jenkins, the Miners' Agent, who strongly urged the men to persist in their abstention from work. Speaking of the dry and dusty condition of the roads, he declared :—

> It must not be forgotten that very fine dust carried in the air from the coal is as much likely to contribute to an explosion as fire-damp.

Home Office Apathy.

It has been freely suggested that some such cause may well have precipitated the Senghenydd catastrophe. Indeed, the conditions at the Windsor Colliery appear to be strikingly similar to those known to have prevailed at Senghenydd. In neither case do the circumstances seem to have incurred the attention of the Home Office inspectorate. In both instances the management of the mine appears to have been woefully indifferent to the gravest warnings. At Abertridwr, the men have happily been protected by the vigilance of their chosen examiners. But for this circumstance, the tragedy of Senghenydd might already have been duplicated. The authorities should institute immediate inquiry, with a view to appropriate and effective action. We await their intervention. The men, on their part, must scrupulously observe the regulations formed for their protection, and thus give no excuse for a corresponding laxity on the part of the management.

THE WEAKER BROTHER.

A WAY THEY HAVE IN THE "ARMY."

Owing to slackness of work at Woolwich Arsenal, where he had been employed for upwards of twenty years, one of our readers was constrained to seek assistance from the Salvation Army's Industrial Colony at Hadleigh, Essex. He was given employment as a painter, receiving a wage of 2s. 6d. per week, with board and lodging. Before long he had the misfortune to meet with a severe accident, falling from a ladder and crushing his foot. For thirteen weeks he was completely disabled, and it is unlikely that he will ever be able to resume active physical labour. In these circumstances, he naturally looks to the "Army" for some sort of compensation for the permanent injury which he has sustained in their service. The Salvationists, however, recognise no such liability in connection with their industrial undertakings, and the poor fellow's appeal has met with a cold response. He has been invited to resume "light employment" at the same princely wage as before. For the rest, he is curtly reminded that he has already received thirteen half-crowns as "compensation" for his injuries, this paltry sum being apparently regarded as an adequate solatium for permanent disablement.

In view of the high philanthropic profession of the Salvationist body, it is interesting to note the business-like tenor of their official replies to the applicant's appeal. The pious note which is uppermost in their public appeals for funds, is entirely absent from these communications. It is here a question of "giving" rather than of "getting," and mawkish sentiment would obviously be out of place. Here is the last letter—signed "W. F. Giles, Brigadier"—received by the applicant, in reply to a renewed appeal for a more generous consideration :—

> Your further letter to hand. Really we cannot add anything to our letter of December 22nd. I have already stated that all and any responsibility of the Salvation Army is taken over by the Car and General Insurance Corporation, and they have seen you upon the matter and have given you their decision.

The gallant officer apparently refers to an interview at which the applicant was informed, on behalf of the "Army," that he need expect no more than he had got, and that if he was not satisfied the penniless man had better go to "law." The Brigadier's earlier letter, it will be observed, disclaiming further responsibility, was written on the eve of Christmas, when countless "Soldiers of the Cross" were shaking their collection boxes under the noses of honest citizens in the sacred name of Charity. When next they are similarly assailed, well-disposed readers will do well to reflect that, on their own official's showing, the conscience of the "Army" is in the keeping of the Car and General Insurance Corporation. Their "philanthropic" efforts, being more readily convertible into terms of profit, remain in their undivided custody.

OFFICIAL OBSTINACY OVERCOME.

WOOLWICH "BIG-GUNS" AND ANOTHER "INFANT."

We shall have to keep our eye upon the Metropolitan Asylums Board. One of our readers, who lives in the South Eastern district, had a child seized with an illness which the doctor diagnosed as diphtheria. "The child must be removed immediately," said he. Accordingly, the case was reported to the authorities at the Woolwich Town Hall—who said, in a casual way, "We will send for the patient when we have room"! Four days passed, and the child still lingered at home. Other youngsters living in the house were refused admission to school, and their elders were debarred from following their employment. These dilatory methods, naturally, did not appeal to the doctor, so he advised the father to acquaint us of the state of affairs. We thereupon sent at once to the Local Government Board offices—and the child was removed to an Isolation Hospital within a couple of hours! What we want to know is, why could not this have been done in the first instance? If it is said that there is insufficient hospital accommodation, we can only say that it is a marvellous coincidence that a bed was vacated the moment we intervened.

Write to Him, Write to Her, Write to Them with a "John Bull" Pen. Coupon on page iii of cover.

THE UNVEILING OF THE GIRL.

By Theodore Allen.

The modern girl is going the pace. She has left even the knuttish youth far in the rear. Daily she gets more daring in her attire, while the youth retires and sobers himself apologetically. He puts on a black tie and affects a quiet shade in clothes as hers gaily approach a rainbow hue. He tones down his socks until a mere stripe of colour remains on a black ground, while her stockings, usually of openwork, become more visible. But the modern girl does not even pause. Her close-fitting jacket reveals femininity in a way which would have immoderately shocked our grandparents As her skirt tightens it recedes from the ground, until dainty ankle and even a suggestion of leg are no longer purely imagined features of her clash form. So compact indeed has she become that one scarcely realises she is clothed. She seems, rather, to have drawn on a new skin, which clads a form which Nature—aided at times by artifice—has made that of a Venus.

A Place in the Son's Thoughts.

Then, sylph-like, she trips through the streets, and laughs and chatters away—the picture of innocence. She frankly revels in the glances of male admirers, blushes not at the frown of the matron. Indeed, she shows no sign whatever that she realises she is possibly a trifle lacking in decorum.

Walking has become a lost art. Still, she utters no murmur at the dictates of a cruel, a delightful fashion, but hobbles daintily and cheerfully along like a manacled fairy. The whole world pauses to wonder, glances back with admiration, and she is satisfied. If emancipation should come in the shape of divided skirts, Mrs. Grundy may gasp in horror, it is true; but not the modern girl. There might be a momentary fluttering of modesty in her breast—then the new departure would be unhesitatingly, even eagerly, adopted.

It is a faithful saying that woman will be the last thing to be civilised. Deep down within her timid nature there is yet a trace of the Siren. There are such glimmerings of revolt against the merely moral that the prosaic and law-abiding male shivers with undefined apprehension. He fancies he already hears the crash of civilisation, pictures himself plunged back into barbarism by the wilful girl—hotly and heedlessly following the will-o'-the-wisp, Fashion, in its reckless career.

No man would allow himself to be coaxed or even bribed into clothing himself on similar lines. He would be in a constant state of shame and panic, would keep to back lanes, dodge all female acquaintances, perpetually wear an overcoat. Life would be a long-drawn-out agony.

Making Glad the Eye.

But it is idle to suppose that he objects to the girl being arrayed in the present mode. Far from that, it has opened to him a new field of secret enjoyment. Formerly he had a keen eye for the pretty girl, but he saw only a beautiful face. Indeed, he expected nothing more. It was an extremely delightful but limited vision. Beyond this there was nothing further of divinity to see—merely a heavy mass of drapery, a sort of walking clothes'-screen, covered most curiously with frills and flounces and embellished with ribbons and embroidery. Just a face surmounting an array of irrelevant, almost disfiguring, garments. Scarcely a graceful curve to remind one of form.

Well may we be thankful that woman is a varying angel. By imperceptible degrees the frills and flounces vanished, the ample folds of needless drapery contracted, until a form was defined—a form of unexpected loveliness. It was a complete, an almost astounding, revelation. We no longer have merely the pretty face, for now we have contour, the complete angelic shape, a form to worship in the beauty of holiness.

Little perhaps did our ancestors think that 1913 would bring the unveiling of the girl, would people our streets, our parks, our places of amusement with animated and adorable female statuary. Could we wonder if their unaccustomed eyes turned to heaven in pious horror?

But let us of the new generation be undismayed. Let us be like the modern girl—in fact, be unflinchingly bold—and fear not to see, confronting us at every turn, visions of the most exquisite mouldings of a divine creature.

POSTAL PLEASANTRIES.

MERRY QUIPS AND "CRANKS" OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Pasted to a printed form, we have recently received from the postal authorities a tag-label, marked "Found in W.C.D.O. unattached," and addressed to "The Editor of John Bull, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C." It bears no postage stamp, and though there is the impress of the W.C. Office it is evident that this was imposed subsequent to its committal to the tender mercies of the authorities, as the time and date agree with those on the printed form. This forms runs:—

> If the article, which appears to have become separated from the attached label, has not come to hand, it is requested that this form may be completed as far as possible and sent, together with the label, to "The Controller, Returned Letter Office, London."
>
> If, however, the relative article has been received, this form should be destroyed.
>
> Name and address of sender.....
> Place, date and hour of posting.....
> Full description of the missing article .....
> What should be done with the article, if found?.....
> Name and address of the applicant.....

We give it up. An enormous number of parcels of all sorts reach us every day, among them some from readers who are good enough to think of the unclad state of the "Human Documents" for whom we appeal. If the mishap does not prevent some poor person from receiving a much-needed gift, we can thoroughly enjoy the joke.

The official brand of humour is also exhibited by the Money Order Department. On the last day of January a postal order for 17s. 6d. was bought at one of the Leytonstone offices, but was almost immediately lost—even before the name of the payee could be filled in or the usual crossing made. Within five minutes this was reported to the official who had sold it, and he kindly supplied the number. A letter was then addressed to the Postmaster-General, giving him the information, and asking him to stop payment. On 7th February, the purchaser was informed that the order had not up till then been audited as paid, and was told that—

> No record is kept at Post Offices of the numbers of the postal orders supplied to individual purchasers and the Sub-Postmaster acted irregularly in furnishing you with the number quoted. Moreover, as the order was presumably in a blank condition when lost it is liable to be paid on presentation at any Post Office, when duly filled in and receipted and no stop can be placed upon its payment.

To the latter sentence no exception can, of course, be taken; but it seems an extraordinary position that the servants of the Post Office—and of the public!—are officially forbidden to act with ordinary courtesy in such matters. On the 18th February another letter was received from the Department, conveying the unwelcome intelligence—for the loser is not in a position to regard the sum as trivial—that the order had been cashed. He naturally asked for the name of the person who had signed the receipt, the address of the office at which payment was made, and the date of such payment. Then came this astonishing manifestation of the head-hardening influence of officialdom:

> The identification of a postal order depends on the production of the counterfoil, or the filling in of the name of the payee. As already pointed out, no record is kept at Post Offices of the numbers of the postal orders supplied to individual purchasers, and in the circumstances, there are no means whereby the particular order purchased by you can be identified. It is regretted that the Department can render you no further assistance in the matter.

In vain was it pointed out that—though, in the circumstances, it was impossible to produce the counterfoil—there was no doubt of the number; the only answer was that:

> It is not the practice of the Department to furnish particulars of payment of any postal order which cannot be identified by the production of the counterfoil or by the filling in of the payee's name. Information irregularly given by issuing officers cannot be regarded as sufficient identification of any order, and it would be impossible to prove the title to the order bearing the number quoted by you. The situation would have been different if an order issued at the Post Office on the 31st January had remained unpaid, as the Postmaster-General would have been willing to assume that it was the order purchased, and after the lapse of six months a duplicate could have been issued, under the usual indemnity

Was there ever such splitting of hairs?

Important to Readers of "John Bull." Turn to page 23.

HADDON'S "HANK."

SUBSCRIPTION STARTED TO STOP A SCOUNDREL.

William Haddon, the Tipton trickster, writing on March 6th, on paper headed merely with the name of the town—for very good reasons he is coy with his address—politely starts:—

> With regard to your lying article in this week's JOHN BULL concerning myself, I beg to inform you that the matter is in the hands of my solicitors, Messrs.—— of ——, to whom forward the address of your solicitors, who will accept service on your behalf. You shall have the opportunity of proving your lying statements.

We are surprised at such disingenuity from so cunning a rascal as Haddon—who, from the necessity of possessing exact knowledge of the law, might reasonably be expected to be aware that, when such proceedings are seriously intended, it is customary for the plaintiff's solicitors to write to the defendant for this information. Nearly a week having passed without the threatened step being apparently taken, we regarded this communication as but one more example of Haddon's bluff—an opinion which was strengthened upon communicating with the professional firm named, who inform us that—having read our articles—when they received a letter from Haddon asking them to issue a writ, they wrote him that he had better come to town to confer with them, and that they had heard nothing further from him.

The continuation of the epistle was a series of allegations against two or three of the people who have complained to us. In the case of a person with a fair record, we might be disposed to attach some weight to what Haddon says, and investigate his statements; but almost every day we are adding to the roll of victims. Among the latest recruits, the nature of the fraud upon whom is somewhat out of Haddon's usual course of "business," is a sub-postmaster, who, in response to an advertisement in the official organ of his class, ordered some of Haddon's post-cards, for which he did not much care, but duly sent the money. Six months after, Haddon tried on his old trick, forwarding another lot quite unauthorised; they were at once returned. The Staffordshire scallywag then began to dun him for 1s. 6d., on the ground that some of these cards had been changed for inferior ones. Many letters were exchanged between the parties, after which Haddon resorted to his old friend, the Mercantile Agency's "Final Notice." A communication was then addressed to the Editor of *The Sub-Postmaster*, who wisely advised that Haddon's threats should be ignored, and expressed regret that the announcement had ever been allowed to appear, incidentally stating that it was necessary to sue Haddon for the price of the advertisement!

Other persons who find that all is fish which comes to the Tipton net, are the printers of the post-cards. Being a young firm and eager for orders, they accepted a commission to print cards to the value of £15. To their dismay, in the course of a week or two the Official Receiver in Bankruptcy communicated with them—and the ultimate result of his exertions was that Haddon's creditors received 6½d. in the £. The printers offer to subscribe £2 towards any fund which may be raised among Haddon's dupes to prosecute the rascal. Who will add to the list?

OUR FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR SYSTEM OF JUDGING.

Here is an unsolicited letter from Mr. H. W. Colson, of 5, Mann Street, Walworth, who recently paid us a surprise visit to witness the football scrutineers at work:—

> I called in at the football offices in response to the invitation published in your book, and was received with polite courtesy that made me feel quite at home. I must say that I had an eye-opener, for I don't believe there could be a more perfect system. If anybody has any doubts as to the competition in my locality, would you be so kind as to refer them to me, if it is too much trouble for them to see for themselves? I shall be coming one day to see the "Bullets" competition judges at work, and I only hope that I will get the same treatment.

With our football staff, as with the "Bullets" judges, their operations are in no way secret, and any competitor or reader is cordially invited to call and witness their operations.

BUREAUCRATIC BLUNDERING.

COUNTY COUNCIL'S CAVALIER COMMUNICATION.

A Hampstead reader, whose child is in regular attendance at school, recently received from the Education Officer of the London County Council a printed notice in the following terms:—

> Your child, Charles, is certified by the Medical Officer (Education) to be in need of dental treatment. It is essential in the interests of the child's health that this treatment should be obtained. Your attention is called to the following extracts from the Children Act, 1908.

Two whole sub-sections of the Act are then quoted, every line of which breathes warning of legal vengeance. Fines of fabulous magnitude and prison "with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding two years," are vigorously threatened, and all because little Charlie has holes in some of his teeth!

The matter might have been merely ridiculous, but for the fact that the notice instead of being sent through the post was delivered at the father's place of business. An open circular bearing the following ominous words, in a bold and challenging type may easily be misinterpreted by chance observers:—

> If any person over the age of 16 years, who has the custody charge or care of any child or young person, wilfully assaults, ill-treats, neglects, abandons, or exposes such child or young person, or procures such child or young person to be assaulted, ill-treated, neglected, abandoned, or exposed in a manner likely to cause such child or young person unnecessary suffering or injury to his health, that person shall be guilty of a misdemeanour.

Such a misleading document should emphatically not be thrown upon the office table of a man against whom no shadow of such a charge could for a moment be sustained.

Whether the child was, in fact, in need of dental treatment, we are unable to say. The father declares that the teeth are reasonably sound, and acrimonious correspondence with the Council's officers has ensued. In any case, it is more than probable that the matter might have been adjusted without friction had the Education Officer written a polite note to the father, calling his attention to the child's defective dentition. The obtrusive quotation of penal enactments should be reserved for cases of persistent opposition to the requirements of the law. We had really expected better of Sir Robert Blair, after his humane and broadminded effort to protect the poor Industrial School serfs.

REFORMATORY RECRUITS.

ANOTHER HOME OFFICE SCANDAL.

There would seem to be a strong case for inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the recruitment of lads for the Regular Army from among the inmates of Industrial and Reformatory Schools. A particularly bad case has recently been brought to our notice. A lad of seventeen, committed to a Reformatory School for a petty offence, was induced by the Superintendent of the institution to give in his name for enlistment. The boy was strongly adverse to military life, but his objections were overcome by the assurance that his father wished him to enter the Army, and would be greatly disappointed should he persist in his refusal to do so. This statement was, in fact, a pure invention, the father having had no opportunity of expressing an opinion upon the matter. The lie served its purpose, however, and the young recruit has now been ordered to India—to the sorrow of his relatives, who had made many kindly plans for his establishment in an honourable civil career. In seeking for some explanation of the unprincipled action of the School Superintendent, we are met with the suggestion that these officers are entitled to collect some commission in respect of recruits enlisted through their agency. If this assertion is unfounded, it is sufficiently disquieting to merit official denial. Equally sinister rumours have reached us with reference to the wretched traffic in farm serfs to which we have made repeated reference. The whole matter calls for thorough investigation. The juvenile penal system, with its attendant scandals, already stinks in the nostrils of decent citizens, and there is a growing demand for the reform of these "reformatories."

Result of Our No. 13 Football Contest. Winners on page 5.

PRECOCIOUS PUPIL.

"REMEDIAL RUBBISH" AND A RUEFUL REPENTANCE.

A very penitent letter reaches us from a lad of fifteen, who confesses that he issued the circular reproduced in our issue of March 7th, promising "£2 1s. 8d. to £3 2s. 6d. a week" to young ladies for "a few hours' light work"—the essential to the introduction to the El Dorado being the sending of five shillings for a formula for "making and compounding" a "Magic Acho and Pain Remover." We withhold the name of the youngster and refrain from repeating his address, as we are convinced that he is more sinned against than sinning—and the premises are, of course, those of his parents, who were quite unaware of the misdirected enterprise of their young hopeful. He tells us that he responded to the wiles of the Domestic Supply Company, of Warburton House, Kirkstall Lane, Leeds—pestilential Yankee, or imitation-Yankee, Mail Order sharks, whose operations we have frequently exposed—and "went in for Scheme No. 2," out of a trumpery booklet entitled "The Big 5.—5 Great Money-making Schemes." The tyro in trickery copied from this the artful form of letter we quoted, compiled by a master at the game—including the lying statement that the absolute stranger to whom it had been addressed "had been referred to us as a lady of energy and ability"—though we are glad to say, he modestly left out of the long list of ills which the concoction is guaranteed to cure an ailment of a delicate character to which the hardened adept in the art of quackery did not hesitate to refer. He also omitted a paragraph, marked "special," in which the person who has been deprived of 5s. is offered "one dozen Simulative Silver Teaspoons" if she will send the names of five friends whom she thinks foolish enough to fall into the same trap—though, of course, such plain language is not used. The "wonderful formula" for which the 5s. was asked is as follows:—

Powdered Dried Mint Leaves ..... 1 lb.
Oil of Peppermint .....8 ozs.

Mix into a soft paste and divide into packets of ⅛ oz. each. Wrap carefully in tin foil to prevent evaporation. Direct purchasers to mix contents of one packet with 6 oz. of alcohol.

We can picture deluded sufferers from all the ailments which flesh is heir to getting "happy" on this stuff, and believing—for a time—that they are cured! But what about the rogues who lead children into the paths of trickery in this manner? The Domestic Supply Stores have had a long run, and it is time they and their "Big Five" were deported to Yankeeland, where these "stunts" are apparently considered legitimate trade.

A WANTON WARRANT.

NEEDLESS ARREST ON A TRUMPERY CHARGE.

On a recent occasion, Messrs. C. S. Goodchild, T. Bower, and H. Pereira foregathered at the Haverhill (Suffolk) Petty Sessional Court, there to dispense equity and administer justice. Among the cases down for hearing was one in which Hubert Elles, of Stradishall, was charged with stealing a ferret; but, to the dismay of the Bench, he failed to put in an appearance. In view of the triviality of the charge, the case might perhaps have proceeded in his absence, but for an objection raised by the learned Clerk of the Court. This worthy intimated that the defendant was clearly entitled to be tried by a jury, in respect of a charge of "larceny," and that he should therefore be apprised of his option in this respect. Such consideration for the rights of the defendant was highly creditable to the learned gentleman, but when it came to carrying his suggestion into effect, both his sense and sympathy appear to have deserted him. Instead of dropping a post-card or sending a policeman round to give a friendly message, he actually advised the Bench to issue an unconditional warrant for arrest. Nothing loth, the aforementioned Justices, without seeking an explanation of the man's absence, ordered the police to lay him by the heels and hale him before the next session of the Court. It is to be hoped that the officers entrusted with this odious duty have executed it with a sounder regard to the equity of the situation than was displayed by their august masters.

WIELAND OR THE WHEEDLE.

FORTUNES FOR FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE SUFFERERS.

A young Lowestoft girl, after answering an advertisement in a local paper, received from "G. Wieland," who, apparently, trades as "The Cinema Arts Studios," 69, Monmouth Street, Sheffield, a circular letter upon which—"not wanting to waste time and money on a bogus affair"—she asks our advice. The document runs:

> Thanks for yours. The Cinema Business has grown to such an extent that Not Only are the Offices of the many Film Companies in London, but in nearly all the principal Towns throughout Great Britain and Ireland, Picture Acting Offers an enormous Field to the Beginner. You have not to be a born Genius to commence as First class Elocution is not necessary and Stage Fright does not attend you, anyone however nervous and Highly Strung can work before a machine. You Do Not Need a lot of Tuition. None of our Star Artistes ever had Tuition Neither Stage experience in any form whatever. We will send you all the Items it is necessary for you to learn. To Qualify, and every particular you need know for 3s. 6d. but it is absolutely necessary you should learn the Items and Matter we send you. *Make your Effort Now*, the Study is Easy, interesting—and by no means monotonous, bear in mind there is no further outlay whatever. When sending P.O. tell us age, height, qualifications if any, whether you would travel or prefer to remain in your own country, also if whole or spare time work desired.

Whether the statement that "None of our Star Artistes ever had Tuition Neither Stage experience in any form whatever," be true or not—and our firm belief is that it is not—lack of education, apparently, is no bar to cute individuals of the Wieland type still fishing a dirty living out of the back-waters of the profession.

The recipients of this precious effusion are invited in replying to "Quote No. 17.B." Should not the latter letter be altered to "J"?

Now then, those who can't dance, can't sing and can't act, walk up!

A LOST LICENCE.

EXCISE AUTHORITIES' HIGH-HANDED ACT.

We have frequently protested against the manners and methods of a certain class of itinerant auctioneers, and we pretend to no great love for the fraternity in general. No one, however, can be blind to the palpable injustice of a case recently brought to our notice. A touring auctioneer took out an Excise licence at Sheffield in July last, handing the authorities a cheque for £10. In moving from place to place, however, he had the misfortune to lose the document, and when subsequently challenged by the police at Bedford he was unable to produce it. Upon explaining the circumstances, he was required to deposit £10 with the local Excise officials, pending their verification of his story. Communication with Sheffield was at once established, and it was speedily made clear that he had in fact paid the fee to the authorities there in respect of duty for the current year. Thus freed from suspicion, he at once wrote to the Customs and Excise Department in London, politely requesting the issue of a new licence in the place of the one he had lost, and at the same time hinting that his £10 deposit in the hands of the Bedford officials had not yet been refunded. In reply he was grandiloquently informed that "as an act of grace and favour" he would be permitted to carry on his business without a licence till the end of the current year, but that no new licence would be issued and his £10 deposit would be retained by the authorities.

There would appear to be no ground of equity or policy upon which the detention of the man's money can be justified, and we are bound to think he has been treated in a most cavalier fashion. It was clearly understood that the cash was to afford security "pending inquiry" and its retention after the satisfactory conclusion of the official interchanges is a distinct breach of trust. As far as we know, there is no reason to regard the man with suspicion in respect of the payment of licence dues, and in any case he has paid fully for the privileges which he at present enjoys. The accidental loss of a licence might be most readily remedied by the issue of a duplicate—and the cash deposit, having served its avowed purpose, should be instantly returned.

Pastime and Profit is provided by "Bullets." Over 5,000 Cash and Other Prizes Weekly.

A Guaranteed Weatherproof for 25/-

THE SLIP-ON KELVIT

is an easy-fitting, stylish weatherproof, especially suited for country and sporting wear.

These Kelvit Weatherproofs are different from any other Weatherproof sold at the same price—they are, in fact, identical with many sold at twice the figure. Kelvit Weatherproofs are the most versatile overcoats we know. They are just right for any weather and almost any climate, and are guaranteed absolutely weatherproof. We stock them in a range of fittings so wide that we can fit you exactly—and at once.

SENT ON APPROVAL FOR SIX DAYS.

In order that you may have the opportunity of judging for yourself the extraordinary value of Kelvits, we will send one on approval on receipt of your remittance for 25s., and will refund your money without argument or hesitation if the coat is returned undamaged within six days.

When ordering please state Height and Chest Measurement over Waistcoat. For Stout Figures the Waist and Sleeve Measurements should also be given.

"KELVIT" WEATHERPROOFS

are made in a variety of Browns, Fawns and Greens in either the Raglan or Slip-on Style. Kelvit materials are absolutely weatherproof, and as an additional precaution each Kelvit is lined with a proofed check lining to harmonise with the colour of the coat.

CARRIAGE PAID - - - - - 25/-

If you would like to see patterns and learn more about the Kelvit Weatherproof before you order, send for pattern card and the booklet, "The Weatherwise Weatherproof," sent free and post free.

Glasgow Clothing Co

ARGYLE ST., GLASGOW.

THE RAGLAN KELVIT

is a particularly smartly cut weatherproof for town or country wear—"correct" for all occasions.

WHAT OTHERS ARE DOING YOU CAN DO.

Belsize

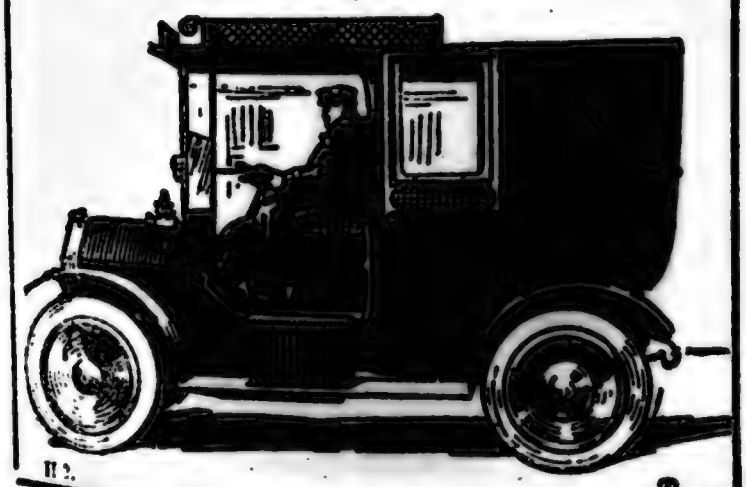
The smartest taxi gets the smartest fares: your BELSIZE will start earning money for you the day you get it. Men have started with a small capital, and in a few years have become owners of a fleet of taxis.

A keen man and a thoroughly reliable taxi can earn a certain and substantial income.

HERE IS THE TAXI. ARE YOU THE MAN?

Let us send you our Illustrated Catalogue and full particulars of the easy payment system.

BERWICK MOTOR SUPPLY CO., LTD.,
13, Spring Gardens, Manchester.



H 2.

IONA

SCOTCH WHISKY

Of rare age and possessing a distinctive mellow flavour "Iona" has to the full those superlative qualities which have made Scotch whiskies famous the world over.

It appeals to the most critical palates as a tonic beverage of the highest standard.

"IONA" can be obtained from your wine and spirit merchant. If he hasn't it in stock, he can get it for you.

G. & J. Maclachlan, Ltd.,
Glasgow.

Auchentoshan Distillery, N.B. Established 1820

E32

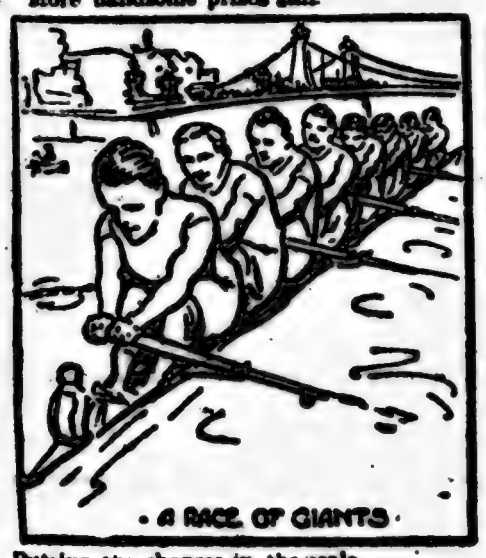
"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

Since Justice Lush says, in effect,
"Bullets" are won by skill,
Competitors may now expect
More handsome prizes still.

Who would have thought the "Thunderer"
Would to a penny come?
Some think Northcliffe a blunderer,
But can't he beat the drum?

From public life service now retired,
Balfour still boasts some verve;
And shows, in tennis garb attired,
He still knows how to serve.



Putting the chances in the scale,
It seems the Cambridge Eight—
Unless that giant crew go stale—
Will win—if but by weight!

The maddest of mad militants
Commits a crime most heinous—
Her "cause" endeavours to advance
By mutilating Venus!

To glare and rattle sabres is
The policy of Prussia;
She finds it's not a paying biz
When it's tried on with "Russia."

A SIGN OF SPRING.

NEWBOUND MAKES A NEW BOUND.

When the young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love, whatever is left of sap in the dry, hard substitute for a heart in Newbound, the despoiler of needy would-be borrowers, stirs within him; and like those other odoriferous hibernators, the badger and the ground-hog, he sets forth after his long fast, seeking whom he may devour. Writing on the 6th March, from his old address—20, Queen's Square, Leeds—to a Surrey man, he says:—

> This money could be put out at 4½ per cent. per annum for 3, 5 or 7 years, as agreed upon. I think it would be far the best way for me to come over and see you personally, and which is the quickest for both sides. There would be the Railway Travelling out-of-pocket, for the journey. This you could pay when I come. This is entirely of a private nature, the Capital being in my Family, and I could explain more fully at interview.

By this time the proposed borrower had remembered seeing in this journal something about a man who lived by deluding applicants for loans into paying "expenses"—the difference between the excursion and ordinary fare, with a handsome margin for "extras," affording him a living "without risk or publicity," as the advertisements say—until JOHN BULL came! The deal was, therefore, declared "off" in emphatic terms. The Family (capital please, Mr. Printer!) to which Newbound is so fond of referring in awe-stricken tones seems to be practically as useless as that of Mrs. Micawber—for they apparently do nothing to rescue him from a squalid and disgraceful life.

THE FORBIDDEN TONGUE.

(*"Did he speak Latin?" asked Mr. de Grey, at Lambeth. "He could not have been sober if he did that."*)

Beware the Latin tongue, and let your talk
Be the vernacular of humble folk,
Use common words upon your daily walk,
For fear you may be sorry that you spoke;
They'll say you've drunk blue ruin or white satin
Should you attempt to air a phrase of Latin.

Non compos mentis will the verdict be
When on the charge sheet shall your *nemen* go,
Of reputation your *felo de se*,
To your shame and *pro bono publico*;
So, even if the lingo you be pat in,
Attempt no future utterance in Latin.

Talk Cherokee or Hindu, if you please,
Turkish or Persian, Eskimo or Greek,
Prattle in Kaffir, talk in Japanese,
Scotch, Choctaw, High Dutch, or small German speak;
But you may straightway start to eat your hat in
Self-condemnation if you spout in Latin.

For lo! a London magistrate has said
You must not think to speak it to a "cop;"
'Tis a dead language, damned as well as dead,
Meriting forty shillings or the "op."
'Tis not a tongue to vilify a cat in——
Let us, *nem. con.*, be sober and shun Latin!

RICARDO.

Don't forget the Pen Coupon on page iii. of cover.

Look back 20 years!

There was then no gramophone, no wireless telegraphy, no bioscope. No monoplane or biplane left the express train far behind. Look back forty years! No electric trams or electric light—no telephones—no submarines—no turbine-engines—no motor-cars—no linotypes—no typewriters—and no one thousand other things now considered essential in modern social and commercial life. The story of how all these things came is a fascinating romance of science and invention. The records of human progress are

Fairy Tales of Science.

The most wonderful fairy tales ever conceived by the most imaginative genius are less wonderful than the true tales of Science. The most thrilling adventures of the world's greatest adventurers are less thrilling than the adventures in the field of Scientific discovery.

The march of Science is so rapid, the discoveries of Science are so marvellous and so far reaching, that the ordinary man can scarcely keep abreast of the progress that is made yearly and almost daily. And the jargon of Science is to the ordinary man a meaningless arrangement of words that neither impress nor instruct. In such a state of things, the

2/6

with order.

Harmsworth Popular Science

In its 7 splendid volumes

comes as a great revelation to the man who is interested in the things that matter. These volumes tell the wonderful story of human progress from the beginning of time to the day in which we live. They tell the story of human achievement with all the fascination of entrancing fiction—in language that the schoolboy can understand—but with accuracy of statement that will satisfy the most exacting student.

The 5,000 pages contained in the seven volumes of the Harmsworth Popular Science glow with a living interest. They are more entrancing than the best fiction—they are more educative than a thousand technical text-books. They keep you abreast of the world's progress—they will give you a new interest in life. They will be a well of pure delight for every man or woman who reads their fascinating records of progress. If you will fill up and send us this coupon, you will receive, post free and without any obligation whatever, a beautiful booklet showing you sample pages from the seven volumes and stating the subscription terms of payment

This Coupon will bring you a Beautiful Booklet FREE.

Fill in and send this Coupon for full particulars

FREE.

To The Educational Book Co., 17, New Bridge St., London, E.C.

Please send me, FREE, a copy of your booklet, "The Wonders of the World," with particulars of your offer of the 7 volumes of "Harmsworth Popular Science," for which I enclose 2s. 6d. cash with order.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Occupation .....

J.B.

A LEGAL LOOPHOLE.

KNICK-KNACKS FROM THE KNACKER'S KNIFE.

A horse slaughterer, or "knacker," must hold a licence from the municipality, his business being subject to stringent control. A case recently determined by Judge Reginald Brown, at the Whitchurch (Chester) County Court, suggests the necessity for some clarification of the existing law.

A dispute had arisen between a licensed knacker and his slaughterer, the latter claiming damages for wrongful dismissal. The master, who had discharged his man upon the ground of alleged misconduct, lost the day and was ordered to indemnify the plaintiff. We are not concerned to discuss the merits of the action. Our purpose is rather to direct attention to certain circumstances of wide public interest which came to light.

The flesh of an animal slaughtered in a knacker's yard being of little value, the plaintiff had apparently been permitted to take meat from the yard for the feeding of his domestic pets. On one occasion, however, a cow from a neighbouring farm was sent to the yard for slaughter. It was killed by a butcher, who declared its flesh to be "sound and good." Thus encouraged, the plaintiff cut off large pieces of meat, which he shared with the butcher. The joints were pickled and eventually eaten by the families of the two men. At the County Court it transpired that this particular beast had been sent to the knacker's yard because of its diseased condition. It was strongly suspected of tuberculosis. It had been inspected by a veterinary surgeon, who had condemned its milk, and declared its flesh unfit for human consumption. Even the butcher who had killed the beast, and subsequently eaten portions of its flesh, admitted in the course of cross-examination that there were traces of tubercular disease in the carcase. Upon these facts, counsel sought to show that there had been an infringement of the law, calculated to imperil the defendant's licence. His Honour held, however, that the legal prohibitions cited contemplated the possible transfer of meat from a knacker's establishment to a butcher's shop, and afforded no check to the distribution of diseased flesh direct from the yard, even where it was destined for human consumption. It is obvious that within such a reading of the law there is ample scope for most flagrant abuse. Assuming the validity of his Honour's decision, there would seem to be nothing to hinder an enterprising knacker from conducting a regular traffic in meat, apparently sound, but actually infected with disease. We are by no means convinced, however, that Judge Brown has accurately interpreted the statutory requirements of the situation. Should his judgment be sustained upon appeal, the law must be strengthened.

BAULKING THE BAILIFFS.

CONGLETON DEBTOR DODGES THE LAW.

A correspondent informs us that in March, 1909, he obtained judgment for 12s. 1d. in the Congleton (Cheshire) County Court. Since then he has spent almost the amount of the debt in various forms of legal process, but has so far failed to extract a single penny from the defendant. No less than nine judgment summonses have been issued, but only two of them served, the others having been successfully dodged by the elusive debtor. The orders of the Court as to payment have been contemptuously ignored. In these circumstances, a committal order would appear to be the only valid alternative, but it is hard to see how such a fiat could be enforced against a defendant who for two years has concealed his whereabouts and covered his traces with almost complete success. Our correspondent asserts that the defendant has not left the vicinity of Congleton during this period, and he is inclined to blame the local bailiffs for their failure to bring him to heel. These officers have not, he thinks, been as pushful or vigilant as the requirements of their office demand. We can express no opinion upon this point except to say that we have received a few complaints against the fraternity upon this score. In any case, we would strongly urge our informant to incur no further costs in chasing his twelve shillings. Thus resolved, he might seek the direction of the Registrar of the Court.

FELL FINANCE.

HOW THE "PEOPLE'S BUDGET" PINCHES THE POOR.

An old lady at Peterborough whose case has been brought to our notice, is in the unhappy position of being just too rich to receive an Old Age Pension, without being poor enough to escape the attentions of the Commissioners of the King's Taxes. Her sole income is apparently derived from the ownership of a plot of land at Paston Land, Peterborough, upon which four tiny cottages stand. It is clear that her gross annual income from these tenements amounts only to £36. She has but a life tenancy of the property, and cannot therefore rid herself of her responsibilities by sale. Her net receipts slightly exceed the Old Age Pension level of £31 10s.

The Government Land Valuers appear to have treated the old lady's modest estate in a most unaccountable fashion. It comprises a little over three acres of ground, which, with the cottages, is valued for purposes of taxation at £384. A portion representing £330 of this amount is regarded as "purely agricultural," and is thus exempt from assessment. The remainder, valued at £54, is for some occult reason held to be "undeveloped," though, as far as can be seen, it is used in precisely the same way as that which escapes taxation. In virtue of this distinction, the owner has been assessed to duty in respect of this portion of her property.

The exaction of Undeveloped Land Duty in these circumstances appeared so wanton a departure from the intentions of the Finance Acts, that a son of the aged owner was moved to take up the cudgels on her behalf. A lengthy correspondence with the Inland Revenue Department ensued. For the old lady, it was clearly shown that her means were so small as not merely to exempt her from the payment of Income Tax and the older Land Tax, but almost to entitle her to an Old Age Pension. Such considerations, however, have little weight at Somerset House. Any patch of earth which, in the opinion of a State Valuer, is "undeveloped," and not "purely agricultural," must bear its quota of taxation. The considerate exemptions of the Income Tax Acts find no place in "the new finance."

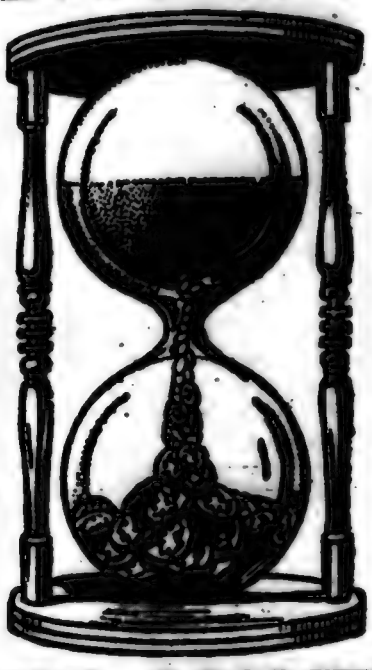
"THE RECEIPT OF CUSTOM."

MISAPPREHENSION COSTING REVENUE THOUSANDS YEARLY.

Many of our readers have written us as to the law relating to the giving and taking of receipts, upon which there appears to have been much misconception—innocent, of course—whereby the Revenue has been deprived of a considerable sum of money. Everyone knows that a receipt for £2 or upwards must bear a penny stamp, but for many years a considerable number of West-End tradesmen have been in the habit, in cash transactions, of handing the customer the invoice with the words "Paid—with thanks" impressed upon it, but without the penny stamp. A few years ago one of our readers had such a transaction in excess of £2 with one of the largest West-End emporiums and obtained a receipt without a stamp. He took exception to this, and was told that the tax was not necessary as the goods were paid for at the time of purchase. Not being satisfied with this, he wrote to the Inland Revenue authorities, and was informed that the firm were correct. This official intelligence spread like wildfire throughout the West-End and beyond. It was not long before the practice became general throughout the country, and the business community thus deprived the State of many hundreds of pounds. It now transpires that even Government Officials are not infallible—that the opinion given from headquarters was inaccurate. This was discovered somewhat curiously. The head of a large establishment had misgivings as to the legality of the prevalent custom, and put his doubts very strongly before the authorities at Somerset House. He had to wait a considerable time for a reply, but it came eventually, and in no unmistakable terms—the subject had evidently been deeply considered. Long extracts from the Act were given, clearly showing that the former interpretation was wrong. There is, however, still a little comfort for those who will suffer heavily by having to relinquish what is now clear has been an irregularity—*no receipt need be given.*

£1,500, £500, £150, £50, £25. Cash Prizes for Football Skill. See page 33.

TURN YOUR TIME



INTO MONEY

Time is a wonderful thing. It has a definite money value if used rightly. No one can rob you of it, but once wasted it is lost for ever.

What about YOUR time? Much of it is doubtless occupied in earning your living. But what about the rest? What about your SPARE time?

The International Correspondence Schools can show you how to turn your spare time into money—to convert wasted hours and minutes into gold. An opportunity of this kind is worth inquiring about, isn't it?

Are you altogether satisfied with your present position and present earnings? Or are you ambitious to increase your earnings to a point which will enable you to share in the good things of life and which will bring you an assurance of security for your future?

Every day we are in receipt of requests from employers of labour who wish to be supplied with I.C.S. trained men to fill well-paid jobs. Why? Simply because leading employers in every centre of industry throughout the country already have many I.C.S. students in their employ AND HAVE FOUND THAT I.C.S. MEN ARE THE BEST MEN. This is a good and sufficient reason, isn't it? *The Enquiry Form below will enable you to obtain full information and to judge for yourself. Enquire* TO-DAY.

Please send I.C.S. Booklet explaining how I can gain a thorough practical and up-to-date knowledge of the subject before which I have marked X, and so qualify for a Secure Position and Better Pay.

COMMERCIAL TRAINING

- Business Training
- Book-keeping
- Salesmanship
- Advertising
- Show Card Writing
- Window Dressing

TECHNICAL TRAINING

- Boiler Engineering
- Marine Engineering
- Gas-Power Engineering
- Motor Engineering
- Cotton Manufacturing
- Woollen Manufacturing
- Steam Engineering
- Steam Electric
- Mechanical Engineering
- Draughtsmanship
- Heating and Ventilating
- Sheet Metal Work
- Shop Practice
- Foundry Work
- Electrical Engineering
- Electric Traction
- Electric Lighting
- Architecture
- Contracting & Building
- Structural Engineering
- Concrete Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Quantity Surveying
- Mining

VARIOUS

- Illustrating
- Designing
- Applied Art
- French, German, Spanish, Italian
- Agriculture, Poultry Farming

Many other Courses to choose from.

Name .....

Address .....

International Correspondence Schools, Ltd.,

145b, International Buildings, Kingsway, London.

(To avoid delay please use our full address).

A Lasting Cure

Neuralgia Headaches Nervousness

"HEALTH BEST EVER HAD."

Mrs. E. SMITH writes: "I feel that I cannot let the opportunity go by without expressing my appreciation of your grand tonic 'Phosferine.' I had been a sufferer for 15 years from severe headaches and extreme nervousness, but nothing could be found to give me any material relief. My existence was positively a misery on account of continual neuralgic pains which chiefly affected my head and face. I was induced by a friend to try Phosferine, and after a few bottles a marked change for the better was the result, and now I am enjoying better health than during any period of my life. Now if I feel the least run down, a dose or two always puts me right again."—76, Dumond Road, Church Street, Stoke Newington.

FREEDOM AND PLEASURE AGAIN AFTER FIFTEEN YEARS' BURDEN OF SUFFERING—SUCH IS THE PRACTICAL BENEFIT PHOSFERINE GAVE IN A BRIEF PERIOD. PHOSFERINE PROVIDES THE ENERGY THAT BROKE DOWN THE HABIT OF SUFFERING.

PHOSFERINE

IS A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

Nervous Debility	Premature Decay	Anæmia
Influenza	Mental Exhaustion	Backache
Indigestion	Loss of Appetite	Rheumatism
Sleeplessness	Lassitude	Headache
Exhaustion	Neuritis	Hysteria
Neuralgia	Faintness	Sciatica
Maternity Weakness	Brain-Fag	

and disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

Supplied by Royal Commands to—

The Royal Family
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia
H.M. the King of Spain
H.M. the Queen of Spain
H.M. the late King of Greece
H.M. the Queen of Roumania, etc.

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

"THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

HUMAN DOCUMENTS.

[On this page every week we publish particulars of human derelicts whose cases, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

CCCIII.—A PROSPECTOR'S PITIABLE PROSPECTS.

This is an appeal for another poor fellow who has reason to curse Cold Canada. He is at present living in the East-End of London, and is practically destitute because he cannot find work. In December, 1912, while prospecting at Dane, in the Larder Lake district, Ontario, he had his hands and feet frozen. The surgeon in attendance managed to save the best part of the feet, taking off only some of the toes and part of the heels, but both hands had to be amputated above the wrists. In this case the officers and members of the Local Union of the Western Federation of Miners, to which the poor chap belonged, sent round the hat, and collected sufficient to send their mutilated comrade comfortably home. And here he is, with two artificial hands, and a couple of "gammy" legs. Though he is of superior education, he is thoroughly at his wits' end how to obtain employment. Can any of our readers oblige? What says Mr. Obed Smith? As an exhibit, this poor maimed Canadian export—stuck in the office window along with the big apples and golden corn—would prove of great interest to intending emigrants.

CCCIV.—A RUN OF BAD LUCK.

The subject of this paragraph is 45 years of age, married, with one child. Fourteen years ago he was the owner of freehold property, the rents from which were sufficient to keep him. To-day he is homeless and penniless, through sheer bad luck. First, he financed a grocery business for a relative, but it did not prove a success. Afterwards he placed in charge a manager, who not only swindled him, but pledged his credit so largely that the freehold property had to be sold. It was a bad sale, the whole going for less than the actual building cost. Creditors seized everything except the furniture, upon which there was a Bill of Sale. Four days before last Christmas he was burnt out of his house and lost everything remaining—there was no insurance. The man is a good accountant, and speaks and writes French, but still he is unable to obtain a situation. At the present time he is living upon his friends and he feels his position keenly. His character will bear the strictest investigation. Perhaps one of our readers can find him a job. He is homeless and penniless, and we plead for a little money to support him, and his wife and child, till he obtains work.

CCCV.—"TO SAVE HER HONOUR."

A few weeks ago a wedding was celebrated in the south-eastern district of London. The bridegroom was an out-of-work porter, aged 21, and the bride was three years his senior. Both of them were minus money, they had no clothes save what they stood in, and no furniture. A philanthropic lady paid the marriage fees in order "to save the girl's honour," as the bridegroom put it. The following is the pathetic little letter which first drew our attention to the case:—

> I hope you will excuse the liberty of writing to you, but I don't know what to do. My husband is out of work and I am daily expecting to become a mother. I am without money, food or fire. We have pawned everything, and my husband has no boots to go out in. Can you find my husband work?

We at once sent to the address given, and found things to be even worse than was stated. The couple were practically starving. They were living in one room, their landlady being almost as poor as themselves. Immediate action was necessary. After we had procured some nourishment for the poor woman, she was removed to the infirmary, where she will receive proper attention. The "bread winner" we also supplied with food—and boots—and now he wants work. Can any of our readers fix him up? We have little sympathy with such improvident marriages, but charity is, happily, wide enough to embrace even the foolish—and weak. The bulk of the money subscribed for this case will be retained until the woman comes out of the infirmary, sufficient being allowed to the man for his bare support in the meantime.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We have received the following, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:—

CCXC.—"British Boy," 5s.; F. R. H. S., £1.

CCXCV.—W. M. R., 5s.; A. H., parcel.

CCXCVI.—W. M. R., 5s.; L. D., parcel.

CCXCVII.—F. H., 2s.; "Saskatoon," 1s.; M. D., 2s. 6d.; and parcel.

CCXCVIII.—J. T. B., 1s.; S. C., 6d.; N. H., 6d.; "Human," 2s. 6d.; P. O., 2s. 4d.; "Nibroc," 1s.; W. P., 6d.; E. G. B., 6d.; N. G. C., 1s.; J. K., 1s.; A. P. C., 1s. 6d.; "Sorry It's Not More," 1s.; T. C. McL., 2s.; "Hollins Cross," 10s.; "Second," £1; "Nellie B.," 2s. 6d.; "Anon," 2s.; "Lincoln Lass," 1s.; W. M., 5s.; L. M., 2s.; R. B. H., 14s.; "Dot," parcel.

CCXCIX.—W. M. R., 5s.; "Pix," 2s.; J. F. P., 2s. 6d.; "Tom," 2s.; E. G. B., 6d.; N. G. C., 1s.; "Sorry It's Not More," 1s.; "Dorset," 1s.; T. M., 2s. 6d.; J. D. F., 1s.; C. A. B., 6s.; "Edinburgh," 2s. 6d.; "Anon," 2s.; J. R. H., £2; R. B. H., 14s.; "New Reader," 2s.; E. H., 1s.

CCC.—W. M. R., 5s.; "Human," 2s. 6d.; W. O. R., 5s.; M. A. P., 2s. 6d.; Mrs. W. M., 5s.; "Schnapps," 2s. 6d.; "Little Johnnie," 8s.; "Calcot," 1s.; J. D. F., 1s.; "Sorry It's Not More," 1s.; "Corban," 1s.; "Kathleen M.," 2s.; J. R. H., £1; R. B. H., 14s.

We have divided £10 from the "John Bull" Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund between CCXCVII and CCCII.

We have also apportioned £10 from the "John Bull" Football Cup Sweepstake Charity Fund as follows:—CCXLIII, £2; CCCI, £5; and £3 to the writer of the article which appeared in our last issue, entitled "Living on Lloyd George."

Mr. W. C. Bass and Mr. E. A. Chapman, the winners of the £500 prizes in our 72nd and 73rd "Bullets" Competitions, respectively, have kindly forwarded us £5 each, which we have divided equally between Nos. CCXCVII, CCXCVIII, CCXCIX, CCC, CCCI, and CCCII.

COLLECTING BOXES.

By the kindness of many of our readers we are enabled to add to our "Human Document" fund by means of collecting boxes, which they are good enough to place on their premises. We shall be glad to hear from others willing to assist in this work.

LONDON.—Mr. E. Morgan, "The Blackstock," Morgan's Corner, Finsbury Park, 3s. 9d.; Mr. F. Ruggins, "Brunswick Arms," Stamford St., 4s.; Mr. J. Copestake, The Professional Chauffeurs' Club, 183, Knightsbridge, 3s. 4d.; Messrs. Bridge and Co., 48, Brompton Rd., 1s.; Mr. F. Vesco, "Carlisle Arms," 2, Bateman St., 1s. 4½d.; Mr. D. Hawkins, "Duke of York," High St., Shadwell, 1s. 0½d.; Mr. P. Ellis, "Crown and Sceptre," Woolmore St., Poplar, 1s. 3d.; Mr. F. Costa, West End Hotel, Coventry St., 1s. 1½d.; Mr. J. Hume, "Dalby Tavern," Dalby St., Kentish Town, 1s.; Mr. H. A. Lloyd, Assembly House, Kentish Town Rd., 1s. 3½d.; Mr. B. Barney, 154, Kentish Town Rd., 3s. 4d.; Mrs. Minett, 25, Morningtn Crescent, 2s. 2d.; Mrs. Wartman, "Butchers' Arms," 256, York Rd., 1s. 2½d.; Messrs. Collinson and Osgood, "Masons' Arms," Harrow Rd., 2s. 2d.; Mr. J. C. Chesterton, "Faunce Arms," Faunce St., Kennington Park, 1s.; Mr. T. H. Morton, "Duke of Edinburgh," Crichton St., Wandsworth Rd., 4s.; Mr. F. McIntyre, 422, Brixton Rd., 1s. 1d.; Mr. J. Bull, "Devonshire Arms," Avonmouth St., Newington Causeway, 2s.; Mrs. Marks, "Archduke Charles," Rodney Rd., Walworth, 2s. 9½d.; Mrs. Lyon, 40, Old Kent Rd., 1s. 6d.; Mr. A. H. Standbrook, Old Clay Hall, Old Ford Rd., 1s. 7d.; Mr. E. Underwood, "Bromley Arms," Fairfield Rd., Bow, 1s. 7d.; Mr. A. Bellatti, "The Sadlers," Swallow St., 1s. 3d.

ABERDEEN.—Mr. T. C. Warren, University Bar, Sinclair Rd., 11s.

BRIGHTON.—Mr. H. D. Barker, 92, Preston Drive, 1s. 9d.; Messrs. Mantell and James, 1 and 2, Arundel St., 1s. 7d.

LIVERPOOL.—Mr. F. W. Delderfield, "Press Guards Hotel," 13, Soho St., 2s. 2d.

MANCHESTER.—Mr. W. J. Jones, "Bay Horse Hotel," Corporation St., 1s. 2d.; Mr. F. J. Beckett, Smithfield Market, 2s. 7d.; Mr. G. F. Fannon, "Falstaff Hotel," Market Place, 1s. 4½d.; Mr. J. A. McNiell, "Castle Hotel," Oldham St., 2s. 1½d.

Total, £3 8s. 7d., of which we have allocated £2 to CCXCIV., and £1 8s. 7d. to CCXCVII.

How to Earn £5 a Week for Life. An Opportunity for Every Reader. See page 23.

You can Play the Piano To-day

By Naunton's National Music System.

IT makes no difference whether you have had previous lessons or not, whether you are 80 years of age or only eight, we guarantee that you can play the piano to-day by this wonderful and simple system. There are no sharps, flats, or theoretical difficulties to worry you, and no tiresome or wearisome exercises or scales to be learnt. You play correctly with both hands at once. No difficulty or drudgery whatever.

Failure is Impossible.

"You cannot fail." All you have to do is to sit down to the piano with our music and play it at once—Hymns, Dance-music, Songs, Classics, anything.

Over 50,000 people are playing by it, and are playing perfectly. If they can do it, so can you.

If you are one of the thousands who have tried and failed, have given up learning by the old methods owing to the difficulties, or if you are afraid to begin because of the drudgery, let us tell you all about this wonderful, simple, rapid, and perfect Naunton's National Music System, which is a real educator. That word "educator" means "to lead out" or "to draw out." It does not mean "to cram in." Our system draws out the musical powers of our students from the very first lesson. Take advantage of the offer we make on the coupon below, and by return of post you will receive five tunes which we guarantee you can play; thus you can prove for yourself the simplicity of our system and the accuracy of our statements. This small outlay will open up the delights of the vast realm of music to you and give you many years of purest pleasure.

Yes! I'm one of the 50,000

No one need ever say again, "I wish I could play"; everyone can do it to-day.

READ WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING:

Mr. W. Illett, of Halesowen, writes:—"I have had your first lesson a little over a week, and anyone hearing me play it would think I had played the piano for years."

A Mother writes:—"Florrie can play splendidly, and I can play also. Your system is certainly splendid, and is just as easy as you said."

Another Pupil says:—"I am recommending it to all my friends, and two of them have sent to you for their lessons."

A Sample of many—after One Lesson:—"When reading your advertisement I could scarcely believe that any system could achieve what was there stated. But on studying your first lesson I realised that at last a system had been discovered which is capable of instructing persons who formerly held the idea that, to play the piano was utterly beyond them. This opinion of themselves must now be entirely set aside. Naunton's National Music System is the acme of simplicity, or simplicity in perfection."

FREE DEMONSTRATIONS
DAILY (Saturday Excepted).
Memorial Hall, Farringdon St., London, E.C.

Call, if convenient, and hear it all explained, or send the coupon with 1/- postal order and test it for yourself.

SPECIAL TRIAL OFFER COUPON.

"JOHN BULL."

TO THE MANAGER, NAUNTON'S NATIONAL MUSIC SYSTEM, MEMORIAL HALL, FARRINGDON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Being a reader of *John Bull*, and desiring to test your system, I send herewith postal order for ONE SHILLING, in return for which please send me your "SPECIAL NO. 1," published at 2s., containing five tunes, and your instructions how I can play them at the first sitting, also particulars of how I can become a thorough musician.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

DATE..... .....

FAIRLIE IN THE SWIM.

FAIRFUL PORTIA'S POWERFUL PLEAS.

We are informed that in the market place at Andover, Hants, on most days of the week, a young lady may be found engaged in the humble but useful calling of selling papers to those that pass by. The name of the fair newsvendor is Miss Fairlie Harmar, and she is the daughter of one Colonel Harmar, a gentleman who, after successful pursuit of certain honest trading operations in the City of London, has retired to the boundaries of Hampshire, and there established himself as a county magnate, of sorts. He is the Chairman of the Andover Division of the County Bench, and, for aught we know, may in due course become High Sheriff and *Custos Rotulorum*. It is not, however, with this gallant and distinguished officer that we are primarily concerned. His daughter, Fairlie, appears to be a much more interesting person. As she plies her humble trade in Andover's ancient square, she is the cynosure of a thousand rustic eyes. Not poverty, but principle, prompts her efforts. Truth will out—she is a suffragette. Once far away in London town she was prosecuted—naughty girl!—for throwing stones at windows for the glory of "the Cause."

"An Unlessoned Girl, Unschooled, Unpractised."

This may account for the penchant which she now displays for the atmosphere of Courts. Or it may be in her blood—for it is said that Colonel Harmar, despite his former immersement in commercial and military pursuits, can wield the sword of justice with all the aplomb of one born in the ermine and prenticed to the niceties of law. Whatever the reason, Miss Fairlie has taken to litigation like a duck to water. At the Andover Borough Police Court she is frequently to be seen, not in her earlier rôle of defendant, but in the loftier character of people's advocate. Not that she has succeeded in evading the legal bar which precludes a woman from the practice of the Courts, but she has found a loophole in the law. A section of an early Education Act permits any person, though not legally qualified, to appear on behalf of parents who have failed to send their children regularly to school. Miss Fairlie has seized the opportunity, and in at least half the cases of this character, lately tried by the Borough Bench, she has resisted the efforts of the prosecution with all the persuasive eloquence of which she is an acknowledged mistress. Time and again she has stayed the avenging arm of justice, and wrenched some unhappy parent from the very teeth of the law. The Education authorities are already distracted by the inordinate measure of success which her forensic efforts have attained. In some mysterious fashion her advocacy has had skill to charm the most savage justice into genial clemency. She speaks, and mercy drops like gentle dew.

Daniels Coming to Judgment.

It must not be assumed that the lady's activities have earned her widespread popularity. On the contrary, many law-abiding citizens view her performances with disfavour, and suggest with some cogency that her undeniable talent might, with advantage, be employed in a less obtrusive fashion. Various reasons are assigned for her almost uncanny success in the arts of defensive pleading. With some of these, which are of a personal nature, gallantry forbids us to deal. For the rest, it is urged that several of the Borough Magistrates to whom her appeals are directed, are colleagues of her father in the wider administration of justice. Though occasionally deigning to grace the humbler urban tribunal, they are yet qualified to sit, as it were, at the feet of Colonel Harmar upon that loftier dais from which the edicts of the County Magistracy are proclaimed. It is contended that Miss Harmar thus enjoys a "pull" over the Borough Bench which mere professional advocates can never hope to attain. Quite vulgarly it has been said that "Fairlie has a way with her father's pals." While unable to endorse these strictures, we are relieved to know that they are likely soon to form the subject of independent investigation. Members of Parliament, clergymen, education officers, and other men of might, are already contemplating concerted action. Thus we must leave Miss Fairlie upon the knees of the gods. Even a suffragette cannot object to that!

BUCKINGHAM LOUNGE SUIT
FROM 30/-
Made to Measure.
No Extras.

You save 33⅓%

and in many cases 50% of your tailoring bills by dealing with THE REGO CLOTHIERS, LTD., who are in the unique position of buying ALL their cloths direct and saving ALL middlemen's profit to the customer. It is by organisation and business economy of the most practical kind that THE REGO CLOTHIERS are able to offer you

better tailoring at less cost

than you can get from any other firm in the Kingdom. This is no idle boast but an actual statement of fact which you can quickly test and prove WITHOUT RISK. WE WILL ACCEPT YOUR TRIAL ORDER UNDER GUARANTEE OF COMPLETE SATISFACTION OR MONEY REFUNDED. We make clothes to measure for over 200,000 smart business men to day and wherever you find a REGO customer you find a well-dressed, well-satisfied man.

FREE. Send us a postcard and we will send you, free and post free, a fine selection of the new pattern suitings for 1914 and a free copy of the great tailoring magazine, "Fashions for Men" illustrating all the newest up-to-date styles in men's wear for the coming season.

Write to-day, and address your postcard.

THE Rego Clothiers LIMITED

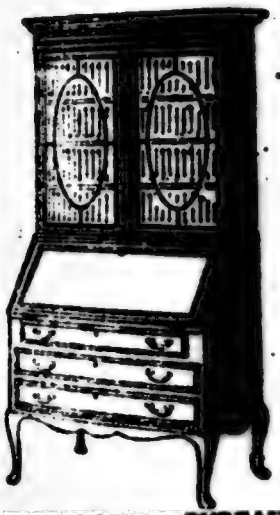
(Dept. M.), 122, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

E.C.
122, Cheapside.
191, Aldersgate Street.
W.C.
280, High Holborn.
N.
263, Pentonville Road, King's Cross.
40, Caledonian Road, King's Cross.
259, Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park.
691, Holloway Road, Highgate.
6, High Street, Islington.
N.W.
183, High Street, Camden Town.
31, High Street, Harlesden.
N.E.
4, High Street, Kingsland.
S.E.
73-77, Powis Street, Woolwich.
7, The Broadway Deptford.
100, Rye Lane, Peckham.
361-363, Walworth Road.
105, High Street, Chatham.
S.W.
92, High Street, Putney.
14, The Broadway, Walham Green.
87, St. John's Road, Clapham Junction.
103, High Road, Balham.
24, Clarence Street, Kingston.
40, George Street, Richmond.
77-79, North End, Croydon.
18, Atlantic Road, Brixton.
E.
19-20, Aldgate.
134-135, High Street, Shoreditch.
58, The Broadway, Ilford.
W.
288, Edgware Road.
109, King Street, Hammersmith.
268, High Road, Chiswick.
82 Uxbridge Road, Stephen's [illegible]

A FREE TEA ROOM open to all visitors at our Oxford Street Salons.

—There is an unvarying high Quality

and sterling value with all our Furniture which will never fail to appeal to those who want "good measure" for their money; a quality and a value which our clients can be sure is never absent or withheld; that is why it pays in the beginning and in the end to buy our Furniture in preference to any other.



Inlaid Mahogany BUREAU BOOKCASE (as illustrated). £7 5s. 0d.

That you may visit us without expense we will pay your fares to our Showrooms should your orders amount to £20 or over. At the same time post orders will receive the careful attention of a special Department, and goods will be safely packed and delivered free to any required address.

When you go to the Hackney Salons

you will realise that we give a 10 per cent. better value than anyone else can offer you. At our Salons you can see for yourself the care and thought given to the making of all our Furniture—and it will be worth your while to come, just to compare our prices with those of other firms.

Write for a copy of our Large Coloured Catalogue. Ask for Catalogue "E."

MONTHLY PAYMENTS

Worth	Per Month			Worth	Per Month		
£10	£0	6	0	£100	£2	5	0
20	0	11	0	200	4	10	0
30	0	17	0	500	11	5	0
40	1	5	0	1000	22	10	0
50	1	8	0				

A beautifully designed 4ft. Inlaid Mahogany Sheraton Style Bedroom Suite, comprising Wardrobe fitted with full length oval mirror, Dressing Table with Swinging oval mirror, Washstand, fitted with tower airers, and two cane-seated Chairs.

£14 14s. 0d.

Originators of the Deferred Payment System

HACKNEY

FURNISHING CO. LTD.

WEST END SHOWROOMS— 103 & 103a, OXFORD STREET, W. Telephone: Ger. 2083, 2084.

CHIEF SHOWROOMS AND GALLERIES—

TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, MARE ST., HACKNEY.

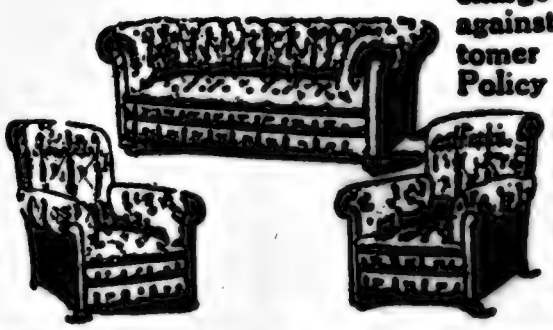
Telephone: Dalston—2030 (4 lines).

Branches: 448, High Road, Chiswick, W. (close to Turnham Green).
14, High Road, Chiswick, W. (3 doors from Young's Corner).
204, High Road, Streatham (facing library).
78, St. John's Road, Clapham Junction, S.W.
56, George Street, Croydon. 110, High Street, Putney

A. M. STEWART, Managing Director

HOURS OF BUSINESS 9 till 9. Oxford Street: 9 till 8

We give you credit without extra charge; we insure the Furniture against Fire free; and give every customer a Free Life Insurance Policy whereby should the hirer die the Furniture at once becomes the property of the widow or children without further payment. Should you prefer to pay cash we allow an additional discount of 10%.



Three-piece Chesterfield Suite, beautifully upholstered, overspring, easy, and extremely comfortable and luxurious. Covered in Superior Art Tapestry.

£9 15s. 0d. only.

Queen Anne Style Mahogany SIDEBOARD, fitted with lower backrail and curtain, beautifully finished and of the finest workmanship throughout.

£9 9s. 0d.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

[This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.]

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Halsbury.

Dear Veteran,—You are Chairman of the new Marconi Select Committee, and since Lord Murray must apparently "face the music," it is good to know that the proceedings will be subject to your high judicial control. Keen fighter as you are in the arena of Party conflict, your better reputation is that of a righteous and unbending judge, dispensing equity with even hand. I am not surprised, therefore, that you have approached the task before you in a severe judicial spirit, permitting no trifling with the ends of truth. I scarcely anticipate that the ultimate findings of the Committee will be devoid of Party bias, but I rejoice in the assurance that, under your honourable guidance, its procedure will be free from scandal and beyond reproach.

John Bull.

To the Hon. Mr. Justice Bargrave Deane.

My Lord,—With you, I gravely deplore the practice of false swearing, and I regret to learn upon your high authority that it is widely prevalent in your Court. The offence appears commonly to be committed by petitioners seeking redress for marital wrongs, and apparently anxious to conceal moral lapses on their own part which might deprive them of relief. In a recent case you consented to an absolute decree, although the petitioning wife was proved to have perjured herself from the motive I have described. You adopted this course from regard to the woman's future, at the same time warning prospective petitioners that you would not again condone the abuse of an oath. "People who come to this Court," you said, "must do so honestly." I cannot deprecate this dictum, but is there any real reason why the faults of one party to a marriage should be held in law to condone the lapses of the other? By the operation of mutual "misconduct" is not the sanctity of the marriage bond *doubly* destroyed? I conceive the function of civil law to be something finer than to preserve the hollow form of a relation which has lost every shred of vital significance. A law which breeds wholesale perjury has lost its moral sanction and cries aloud for repeal.

John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Sir Edward Carson, P.C., K.C., M.P.

Dear Sir Edward,—I regret to notice that you have got yourself into horrible trouble with the Suffragettes. With that want of logic which is their most charming foible, the dear ladies have utterly failed to distinguish between actual and contingent militancy, and have even sought to establish crude analogies between their propaganda and your own. Baulked of the sympathy which they had presumed to expect from you, they proceeded to sit upon your doorstep for the space of several days, finally assailing you in the privacy of your apartment with all manner of threats and demands. It is, indeed, deplorable that you should be thus vexed in an hour—I quote from the Party Press—of national crisis. Accept my sympathy.

John Bull.

To Sir James Barr, M.D., British Medical Association.

Dear Sir James,—I note your interesting assertion that "prisons are about the best sanatoria in the United Kingdom," and that while they are not exactly the "first-class hotels" of which in another connection we have heard, yet "a sojourn in one of his Majesty's gaols will undoubtedly prolong life." Your words will doubtless be a source of comfort to the criminal classes in general, and the rigour of many a sentence will be tempered by the knowledge that, hygienically regarded, it is a blessing in disguise. My only fear is lest your pronouncement should indirectly encourage a rush for gaol. This, however, is a consideration with which you, as a scientific man, can hardly be expected to concern yourself. Do tell us some more soon.

John Bull.

To Head Constable Mercer, Tiverton, Devonshire.

Your Excellency,—Permit me to offer my congratulations on your auspicious appointment to your new office of honour and dignity, that of Inspector under the Wart-Diseases-of-Potatoes Order. As your Excellency is already illustrious by your appointments as Chief of the Tiverton Policemen, Captain of the Fire Fighters, Inspector of Food and Drugs, Inspector of Petroleum, Inspector of Explosives, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Inspector under the Shops Act, Inspector under the Fabrics Misdescriptions Act, Inspector of Common Lodging Houses, Assistant Relieving Officer, Inspector under the Sheep Dipping Order, Inspector of Cattle Diseases, and Inspector of Mildew on Gooseberries, I shall not rashly assume that your new post as Inspector of 'Taters is the climax of your official career. Rather would I claim the gift of prophecy, though I have it not, and declare that very soon I shall see you the proud wearer of the insignia of the Order of Inspectorship of Bunions on Mangel-Wurzels, and the Chief Superintendency of Corns on Carrots. In the meantime, Excellency, the people of Tiverton have great hopes that warts on potatoes will vanish before your eagle eye and tireless energy. For myself, I may say that I am confident you will not shrink from the faithful performance of your duty by either ordering them to "move on" or arresting them for loitering with intent to commit a nuisance. Assuring your Excellency of my high regard.

John Bull.

To the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Cork, Alderman O'Shea, Eris.

My Lord Mayor,—The debate at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Local Authority the other day amazes me. As you were present, you may have been amazed yourself; for it was brought to the notice of the members by Alderman Buckley that a man named Lynch, who had bought 17 pigs at Macroom fair, had been compelled to leave them in trucks for twenty-four hours at Capwell without food or water, because, under the red tape of the Diseases of Animals Act, as spun out in interminable yards by the Town Clerk, nobody was allowed to go near them. There was, too, the case of a heifer, similarly neglected and similarly suffering. The Authority could do nothing; the Executive Committee could do nothing; nobody could do anything except the Agricultural Department, and they, of course, did nothing; while in the meantime "the pigs were eating one another in the wagons like a lot of lions." It is a thoroughly scandalous and cruel business altogether, my Lord Mayor—quite as important as Home Rule. Ask Redmond to look into it without delay.

John Bull.

To Horace De Vere Cole, Esq., London.

Sir,—I regret that I cannot describe your whereabouts with greater particularity, but you are really such a devil of a fellow that one never knows where you will turn up next. Only the other day, in the guise of the Prince of Zanzibar, you enjoyed the august hospitality of the Mayor and Corporation of Cambridge; while even more recently you were the Crown Prince of Wurtemburg, merrily careering through space in an aeroplane, piloted by Mr. Grahame-White. In short, it seems to be your hobby in life to go about "bluffing" all sorts of nice things out of people, by pretending to titles and dignities which you do not possess. No doubt, it is an awfully interesting game for one who has nothing else to do, and the spice of danger involved may perhaps add relish to the sport. What a good job you are a "de Vere" instead of a Smith or a Robinson—or is that an *alias* too?

John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Lord Selborne, House of Lords.

Dear Lord Selborne,—Just a line. In the course of a speech you made in the country a few days ago, you said: "The Party machine has no principle, no opinion, and the sole object of its existence is to get votes and get them anyhow." If that be so—as it is—why in the world don't you come out of it?

John Bull.

Increase in Prizes. See Our New Football Contest—Wins and Draws—One Week Only. Page 33.

THE "SOVEREIGN" REMEDY.

A "CALL" ON THE KING.

A DISGRUNTLED TORY.

(Being the hitherto pent-up sentiments of a hitherto "loyal" Tory.)

Why has the system of Party Government in England fallen into such contempt? The reason is not far to seek. It has lost all reality, and has become a sham, a fraud, and a byword. In the House of Commons we have a Labour Party which promotes the real interests of working men about as much as a quack medicine vendor may be said to represent the views of the College of Physicians.

Of that which is pleased to call itself the Liberal Party we may say (as was said of the French Jacobins) that their liberty is not liberal, their science is presumptuous ignorance, their humanity is savage and brutal. The Irish Party is—well, just "Irish"; for in common English this word connotes an idea of unconscious humour and obvious contradiction in terms, so that just as the expression "John Bull" stands for common sense, Irish Bull stands for *non*-sense. When a poor country—such as Scotland or Ireland—is fortunate enough to find itself united to a rich country like England, it is the height of criminal folly to agitate for the repeal of a union which, despite the lies of political agitators, has brought untold blessings to the so-called down-trodden nation. The Unionists are—to speak quite plainly—a disorganised hypocrisy. The Party is paralysed by internal dissention, which is the more harmful from the efforts made to prevent its becoming known. The leaders speak in oracular fashion when confronted with a difficulty. The late Lord Salisbury is reported to have said, in course of conversation with a lady whom he had taken in to dinner, that there are always in this country a great many clever men who can see both sides of a question, but there are very few who are clever enough to say with confidence which of the two sides is right. Never has the wisdom of this saying been more strikingly illustrated than by the spectacle of England to-day. Now what do we all mean when we use the expression "a Business Government"? We mean a Government which is conducted in the same scientific manner as every man has to employ in the conduct of the particular business by which he lives. This science of government is called statesmanship, and stands to the body politic in exactly the same position that a skilled physician holds when called in to minister to the ills of the human body. The only difference is one of *degree*—and not of DEGREES; for, whereas it may require five or more years of hard study to qualify as a medical practitioner, it will need at least twice that amount of time and application to enable a statesman to grasp all the difficulties, intricacies and conflicting interests which have to be weighed, sifted and reconciled before beneficent laws can be framed. The superficial aspect of every question is nearly always seen to be ridiculous. We must get beneath the surface of things, and realise what Herbert Spencer called the *momentum* of legislation—in other words, foresee its effect on national character—before we can hope to find a remedy for any of the ills of the State. The Parliament Act, the Insurance Act, the Trades Disputes Act, the Home Rule Bill, and the Welsh Church Disendowment Bill are all monuments to the incapacity, ignorance and cowardice of the discredited factions which now sit on both sides of the House of Commons.

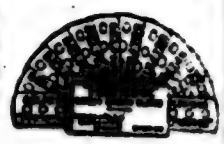
"THOUGHTS ON FORGIVENESS."

BY OUR "MAD PHILOSOPHER."

"Forgive thine Enemies!"—so the Scripture says;
The world approves this precept—when it pays.
"Ah well!
An enemy forgiven, often goes to prove
Forgiveness is but 'Charity' divorced from Love.
And where's the 'Virtue' in the word 'Forgiven,'
Which makes 'Expediency' the way to Heaven——? or Hell!"

We understand that the increased demand for *Reynolds's Newspaper* clearly indicates the public interest in Hall Caine's story, "The Woman Thou Gavest Me." This great novel has all the elements of an absorbing serial.

WHITELEY'S KILDARE CLUB CYCLES
£3:19:6 12 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF 6/8
Splendidly built and well finished. Dunlop Cambridge Tyres, Perry Chain and Free Wheel, nicely Lined. British Built Throughout.
RALEIGHS HUDSONS SWIFTS HUMBERS SINGERS JAMES
MOTOR CYCLES and CYCLE CARS by EASY Payments at 2% extra. £1 in £50
Kildare Club Models are sound, honest value, and are supplied by Easy Payments at the Cash Prices, without one penny extra charge for the 12 months' credit. Whiteleys are the only firm in the British Isles offering such
WONDERFUL EASY PAYMENT TERMS.
Send for Catalogue AT ONCE
Carriage Paid throughout the United Kingdom.
WM. WHITELEY LTD. QUEEN'S RD., LONDON, W.
Please mention "John Bull."

Guaranteed Safety Razor Blades
At a Reasonable Price
SELFRIDGE'S "PERMEDGE" Safety-razor blades are made of the finest SHEFFIELD SILVER STEEL and are ground and set by a unique method.

Each blade is separately examined and tested. These blades are suitable for all makes of DOUBLE-EDGED Safety-razors.
We will reset them once FREE OF CHARGE.
PACKET OF TWELVE BLADES 2/6
SELFRIDGE & CO., LTD., OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.

Penny Wise—Pound Foolish
applies forcibly to those who allow prices only to determine their choice of a Dry Cleaner or Dyer. Our prices are within the reach of all, and are based on the service we render to our Clients. When they are higher than those quoted by others, the difference is due entirely to the superiority of the Johnson Patent Processes. Don't risk the spoiling of a valuable suit or overcoat for the sake of a few pence.
SEND it to JOHNSONS'
to be treated by their Patent Process, because:
1. They extract all the dust and dirt with which the fabric is impregnated. Each article is passed through the spirit-cleansing process as often as its particular condition requires, and not merely surface-cleaned.
2. Every spot and stain is eradicated, shininess is removed, and the fabric is restored to its original appearance and looks "Just like New."
3. Suits for dyeing, are first dry-cleaned, and the vest and sleeve linings are removed, cleansed, and replaced so as to avoid any "dyed" appearance.
4. The garments are returned beautifully finished and tailor pressed.
Suits cleaned ... ... 4/6 Dyed, 7/-
Raincoats cleaned, 3/6 Cleaned and Pressed, 5/-
Ladies' Blouses, Dresses, Gloves, also treated with equal care and effectiveness. Send post card for illustrated catalogue F and list of 100 Branches.
JOHNSON BROS., Beetle Dye Works, LIVERPOOL

INVALIDS WHO CANNOT WALK
Can Find Relief in the

If you cannot walk, Send for my Free Book.
FREE BOOK which I will send to all applicants. Its pages are full of illustrations showing the famous Dingwall Witham Hand-propelled Tricycles and Bath Chairs, different from all others, combining specially designed two-speed gear, free wheel, with saddle flat seat or wicker or light coach built bath chair to your measure, hand-controlled steering, hill-climbing power, giving in fact perfect independence and comfort.
Don't be helpless any more. Go out alone and start life afresh. Dingwall Witham invalid chairs are designed by an invalid and cycle engineer; they are recommended in "British Medical Journal," "Cycling," etc., and are absolutely the best and in use by both ladies and gentlemen (young and old) all over the country, to whom references will be gladly given.

Works: London and Newport, I.W. Trials arranged.
Send to-day
JAS. P. WITHAM Invalid Chair Specialist, 8, Pyle Street, Newport, Wight INDOOR Propelling Chairs in great demand

NOW IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY

to take advantage of this Amazing Prize Offer:

£5 A WEEK FOR LIFE!

OR

£2,500 CASH

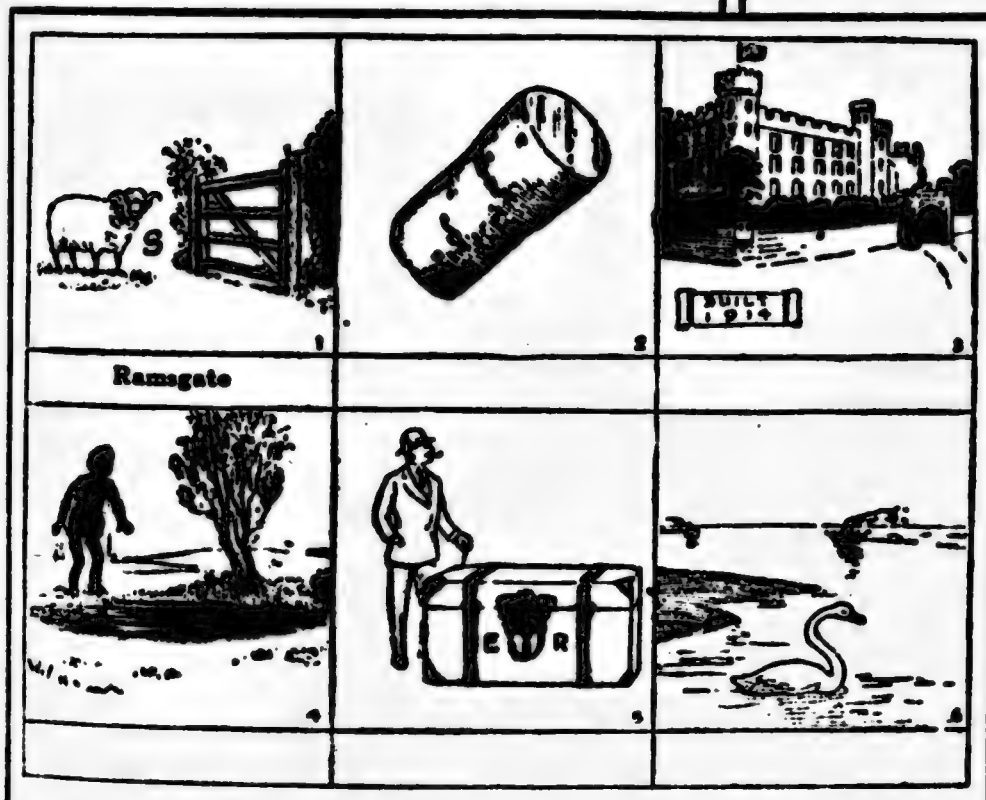
and

202 CASH PRIZES amounting to— £325

NOTHING TO PAY!

APOLOGY

TO those of our readers who failed, owing to the huge demand, to obtain copies of *Mary Bull* containing the first set of pictures, we extend our apologies, and hasten to make amends. We reprint on this page the first set of pictures—which we give *free*—so that EVERY reader of JOHN BULL can now take advantage of this unparalleled Prize offer. Now is your opportunity. Fill in the first set at once—what you have to do is explained below. Then get the second set in *Mary Bull*, on sale Friday this week—March 20th. You can send as many sets as you like, so that even if you have already entered you can still make use of the Free set of pictures given below. Enter yourself and *get your friends to enter*. This is an opportunity that may never occur again.



Name and Address..... 1st SET.

YOU CAN USE THIS FREE SET

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

These six pictures represent the names of six towns and cities. Fill in beneath each picture the name of the town or city you think it represents. See Picture No. 1 for example. There will be a few sets only. Second set and all particulars in "Mary Bull." on sale Friday, this week, March 20.

NOTHING TO PAY.

Having filled in the above Free Set of Pictures, get

THIS WEEK'S MARY BULL

On sale Friday this week, March 20, for the Second Set of Pictures and full particulars of this GREAT FREE PICTURE COMPETITION.

NEW PARSON (*to old parishioner*): "Well, Thomas, I was glad to see you at Church last night. Did you follow my discourse? Could you see the point at which I was aiming?"
THOMAS—"Aye, sur, I did see the pint you were aiming at right enow; but I thought you were a main bad shot!"

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

NOBLESSE OBLIGE.

KNUT (*to grimy workman entering carriage with tools of his trade*): Heah! mind your beastly tools, me man! Look what you've done! You've made a rotten mark on me spat!

WORKMAN: Sorry, mate. (*Spits.*)

KNUT (*reddening*): Sorwy! What's the good of bein' sorwy? You ought to put your beastly things in the luggage van!

WORKMAN: I've sed I'm sorry. Cawn't do more'n that, can I?

KNUT: You needn't be so beastly impertinent!

WORKMAN: 'O's impert'n'nt?

KNUT: *You* are—disguacefully!

WORKMAN: Git art! Wotcher torkin' erbart? I'm as much right in this kerridge as you 'ave. You oughter be in a hambulance van if you 'ave to 'ave yer feet wrapped up in bandiges like that.

KNUT: I shall report you to the guard when we get to the next station.

WORKMAN: I wouldn't, if I was you. 'E's an ole pal o' mine. You'd better report me to the new Yankee Manager. 'E's more my mark.

KNUT: Anyhow, I shall report you.

WORKMAN (*growing a trifle warm*): Look 'ere, 'oo d'yer fink you are—Lord Tom Noddy, or what? I tell you wot it is, mate—you wouldn't make sich a 'ell of a fuss if you wos a gen'l'man. You're a "nut," or a "k-nut," as they call it in the 'Alls. That's wot chew are—and a bad one at that, I should say.

KNUT: How *dare* you speak to me in that fashion?

WORKMAN: 'Ow dare I? W'y, becos I'm a British workin' man, I s'pose. I touched yer foot wiv me shovel, I sez I'm sorry, and then you stawts makin' orl this blarsted fuss. I know's a gen'l'm'n w'en I sees one. But chew ain't one, so I tells yer, strite.

KNUT (*choking*): You—you——!

WORKMAN: Thet's right—show yer breed! I tell yer wot *chew* awe—you're one of them wasters wot Lord Willoughby de Broke spoke erbart in the 'Ouse o' Lords t'other day—you're one of the idle rich wot could do with a bit o' drillin' in the Army. Instead o' w'ich you spend orl yore money on yer own amoosements, an' leave the defendin' of the country to the pore, wot 'er the on'y loyal patriots in the country.

KNUT: Pshaw! What do you know about the House of Lords?

WORKMAN: Wotter I know? W'y, a bit more'n you fink, p'raps. I reads the pipers, yer see. I read a bit erbart chew k-nuts in one of 'em t'other day. It sed, "W'y do the k-nuts orlways wear their 'ats on the back of their 'eads? 'Cos if thby took any hinterest in their personal appearance they'd wear their 'ats over their faces." And you'd say the same if yer looked at yerself in the glawss.

NERVOUS PASSENGER: D—don't you think you've baited the young gentleman enough, friend?

WORKMAN: 'Oo's baitin' of 'im? I'm on'y torkin' to 'im fur 'is good. It's 'is sort wot causes a lot o' the bad blood between the workin' clawsses an' the hupper ten. We can stand a decent young nob wot *is* a gen'l'm'n. Some of 'em is orlright—good sports, an' make dam good orficers in the Harmy. I know, 'cos I've bin in it. Ho, yuss; I've done my bit fur the Ole Country, orlthough I'm on'y a workin' man 'oo 'as to go 'ome dirty, an' don't wear no spats to keep chilblains orf me feet.

KNUT (*rising*): Let me pass. I get out heah!

WORKMAN (*moving his tools*): My ole mother—bless 'er 'eart!—orlways taught me to say "please."

KNUT (*furious*): Let me pass—do you heah?

WORKMAN: 'Oo's stoppin' of yer? Too tired ter lift yer foot over a shovel? Wait till I've lighted me pipe, an' I'll lend you a 'and.

KNUT: Guard! GUARD!!

GUARD: Yes-sir?

KNUT: I wish to report this man for insolence.

GUARD: Nuthink to do wi' me, sir. Now, if it wos assault, you could summons 'im. 'Urry up, sir, please.

"Bullets"—the Best-Judged of all Word Competitions.

You can be sure of being nourished

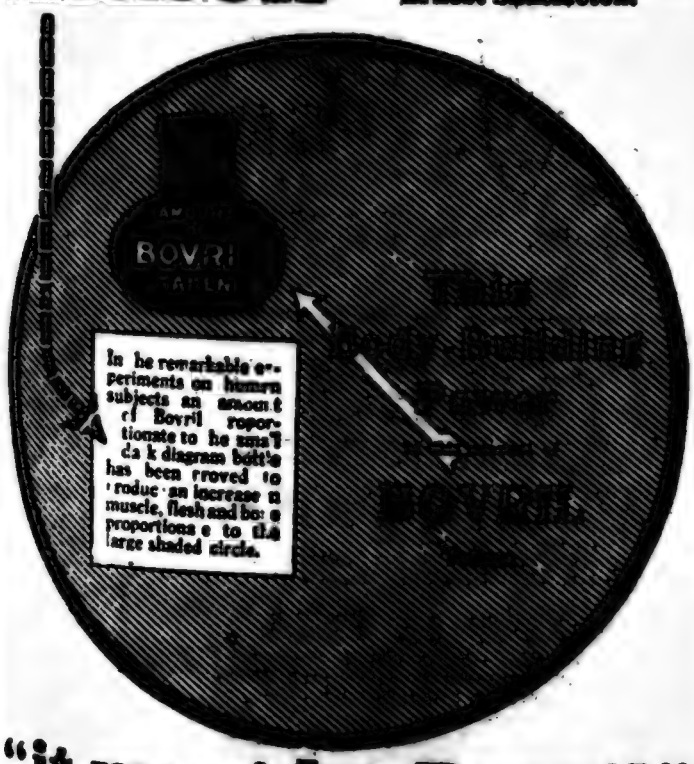
if you take BOVRIL

Bovril has the peculiar power of enabling people to get from their food nourishment which they cannot obtain in any other way. Unless your system crushes the gold of nourishment out of the ore of food you cannot get strong or keep strong, however much you eat.

Until your food has become part of your muscle, flesh and bone, it cannot assist in that process of rebuilding the body which is essential to good health. If your food does not nourish, however you vary your diet; if you are not strong enough to resist illness, or if you cannot get strong after illness, you will find a magical change if you add Bovril to your diet.

this is the Reason

Bovril is the only concentrated beef preparation which will be used in the forthcoming Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition under the leadership of Sir Ernest Shackleton.



"it-must-be-Bovril"

3d. for 10

is perhaps the average price paid for Cigarettes. But all "10 for 3d." Cigarettes are not the same—not the same value.

Some are better than others—*one* only can be *best*. There's only one best in anything.

In "10 for 3d." Cigarettes it's the "Black Cat."

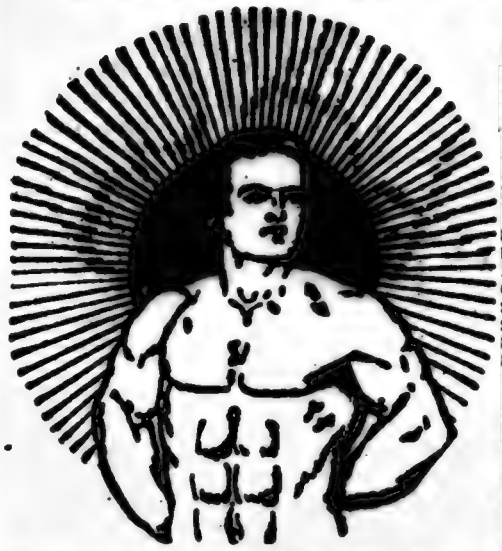
Best because "Black Cat" contains nothing but pure Virginia Tobacco.

Best because no other Cigarette at the price is made so carefully, so firmly, so evenly.

"The proof of the pudding is the eating o' it." Next time get a packet of

CARRER & Ltd, London, E.C. (Established 1788)

"I'M CURED"



"I doubt if you expected this definite statement from me when you saw me two months ago. I was as bad a case as you ever had to deal with. I had been a wreck for twelve years—a total physical and mental wreck. Treatments and medicines cost me close on £200, and I was worse in the end than when I started. My doctor said I would never be any better, laughed at the idea of electricity when I mentioned it to him. In spite of this, I am as physically fit as I ever was, strong, robust, energetic, can eat almost anything and enjoy it, and have fully regained my normal weight.

"You've a grand remedy in that 'Ajax' Battery. It's wonderful the life it infuses into the body. I am sure there is nothing to equal it. A man who hesitates to use electricity to-day is his own worst enemy. He is blind to facts, as I was so long. I'm a living example for you, and though I took some convincing, your common-sense arguments set me thinking."

That's the statement of a man who a few months ago was without hope. There are thousands of such men, and every one of them could be made strong and happy if they would out grasp the opportunity that Nature offers them in electricity. The "Ajax" Body Battery is the ideal cure for such cases. It cures all forms of weakness, pains of every description, kidney, liver, stomach and bowel troubles. It not only cures, but cures permanently.

IT IS FREE TO MEN.

Let us send you our 80-page book which tells you how to cure yourself at home—and stay cured. It is free, in a plain sealed envelope to all who write for it at once. Do so now.

THE BRITISH ELECTRIC INSTITUTE

(*Dept.* 41), 25, HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON, E.C

AJAX 1.0.

CURTAIN RAISERS.

"THE GREAT STAR STATESMAN PUZZLE CONTEST."

ACT I.

SCENE: *Sitting-room of* MR. JOHN BROWN, *a plain and simple (very) Englishman.* TIME, *evening.*

MR. BROWN: How would you like to win a Hundred Pound, old dear?

MRS. BROWN: How would I like the moon, you mean!

MR. B.: Not much of a strain about it, I can tell you! It's about the simplest thing I've struck. "£100 given away," it says. Underneath are twenty-one squares with dots in 'em—three lines of seven squares—see? Each of them squares represents a letter of the alphabet—see? And the line of seven squares represents a word—see? The puzzle is to find out what it is—see? Each line of seven squares "represents the name of a prominent British Statesman," it says—see? And the dots, or stars, in each square represent the letters what go to make up the name—see? Now look at this first line—why, it's easy as easy! There's one star in the first square, ain't there? Well, that means A.—see? In the next square there's nineteen stars. That means the nineteenth letter in the alphabet—see? What is the nineteenth letter, old girl? You're quicker at figures than what I am.

MRS. B. (*becoming interested*): Why, S, isn't it?

MR. B.: That's it, I reckon! That makes AS. Now there's seventeen stars in the next square. What would—

MRS. B. (*quickly*): Q, of course! That's ASQ—— Why it must be Asquith! Come, let me look at the rest! (*Rapidly peruses rest of puzzle.*) That's it—Asquith, Balfour and L. George!

MR. B.: Hooray! Then we've solved it! What about the Hundred Pounds now, old girl?

MRS. B.: Don't you be in too much of a hurry. *It's too easy* to be honest, I fancy.

MR. B.: There you go—chucking cold water! Just because we've found it out you think it's too easy! We'll send in, anyhow. You don't have to send no money—only a penny stamp to the HOLBORN VULCANITE CO. Look here, it says: "Stick to it and you can win a prize." Any'ow, I'm going to send in.

ACT II.

SCENE: *The Same.* MR. *and* MRS. BROWN *reading letter from* HOLBORN VULCANITE COMPANY.

MR. B. (*reading aloud*): "We are glad to tell you that you have been successful in the 'Star' Contest advertised by us, and you are consequently a winner in the £100 Cash Prize Distribution under the terms of the enclosed Prize Award. You have merely to obtain for us one purchaser of one of our famous Volcano Fountain Pens . . . at the reduced price of 3s. 6d."

MRS. B.: I thought as much. They tell you you've won a cash prize, but instead of sending it to you they ask *you* to send *them* 3s. 6d. Well, I suppose you'd be silly enough!

MR. B.: I am to participate in the £100 cash prize.

MRS. B.: Yes; and what'll *your* share be, with an easy puzzle like that? A couple of penny stamps?

MR. B.: You *are* a bit of a croaker, ole girl—but I think I can see you're right this time, after all.

MRS. B.: Well, I usually am—aren't I?

[CURTAIN.]

GRAVES 'WORLD'S BEST' CYCLE

The Graves 'Speed King' Modele de Luxe is the World's Best Bicycle. This is a considered statement, and we earnestly invite you to compare our specification with any other make you like to choose, and then form your own opinion as to the truth of our assertion. Plainly put, we challenge the Cycle Trade to produce a machine of equal merit. The Graves Cycle contains the most recent perfections, and every component is supplied by a maker of world-wide renown, the excellence of whose speciality is admittedly unequalled by any other manufacturer.

WE DELIVER Graves 'Speed King' Modele de Luxe exactly to specification, Ladies' or Gent's, carriage paid to all approved orders for 10/- NOW. The balance is payable in small monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied with the Cycle after full inspection at your own home, and are fully convinced that our offer is absolutely genuine and our claim perfectly true. Every machine carries the Graves Guarantee for 10 years and we allow the fullest approval. If for any reason whatever you are disappointed you simply return the machine, leaving us to pay the carriage, and we will immediately refund every penny of your money without any discussion.

10/- WITH ORDER.

TEN YEARS WARRANTY.

SPECIFICATION:

REYNOLDS WELDLESS STEEL TUBING
CLINCHER A-WON OR DUNLOP TYRES
PHILLIPS TOKE AND HINGE BRAKES
STURMEY-ARCHER 3 SPEED GEAR
HANS RENOLD TWIN ROLLER CHAIN
BROOKS B.75 PLATED SPRING SADDLE
WILLIAMS CHAIN WHEEL & CRANKS
PHILLIPS DE LUXE PATENT PEDALS
HOFFMANNS' PATENT STEEL BALLS
DOVER HANDLE GRIPS AND LEVER TIPS

Enamelled Black or Green, as ordered, and beautifully [illegible] lined with double gold panels. All bright parts [illegible] Nickel Plated. Supplied complete with Brooks' Name [illegible] Leather [illegible] Kit, Oil Can, Pumps and Clips, Dunlop Repair [illegible] and complete range of Hardened Steel Spanners to [illegible]

WRITE FOR NEW CATALOGUE

A post card will bring you per return our latest Catalogue of the Graves World's Best Cycles. It exhibits a full range of Ladies' and Gent's Machines, including All-black all-weather Models with full detailed specifications and all particulars of our Easy Monthly Payment Terms. Prices from £4 10:0 to £11:9:6. This interesting and practical book puts you absolutely on the inside track for Cycle-quality and value and no matter where you live you may profit by our trade challenge prices and our favourable terms of payment.

Separate Catalogues for Cycle and Motor Cycle Tyres, Accessories, Motor Cycles, and Motor Cars. Write for the one which interests you.

J. G. GRAVES LTD.

SHEFFIELD.

ALLEN'S DAILY SYSTEM WIRES

YOU CAN START WITH ONLY £3 CAPITAL! PROFITS OFTEN EXCEED £10 DAILY.

Known throughout the world as the most reliable means of beating the bookmakers. Don't lose any more money.

I ASSURE YOU A REGULAR INCOME

without fail each season. Follow my Daily System Wires and celebrated method of investment. Acknowledged by all my clients as the most wonderful method ever invented. IT HAS STOOD THE TEST OF TIME. There is no risk, as, should I fail in the terms of my guarantee,

I WILL RETURN YOUR MONEY IN FULL

without making any deductions for telegraphic expenses. Could I say anything fairer or offer more genuine proof?

Send for MY GREAT FREE BOOK. It contains scores of testimonials, proofs, press opinions, past selections, and, moreover, explains HOW TO MAKE RACING PAY. Don't wait until to-morrow you may forget, and

IT COSTS YOU NOTHING,

so sit down and write now. Simply write your name and address and the words "JOHN BULL" on a postcard, and the book will be sent you by return of post in a PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPE.

MY GREAT FREE BOOK TELLS YOU HOW YOU CAN MAKE RACING PAY!

C. ALLEN, 386, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W. Telegrams:—"REGLINCOM, WESDO, LONDON."

£1 A DAY FOR LIFE.

Offered by "PEARSON'S WEEKLY,"

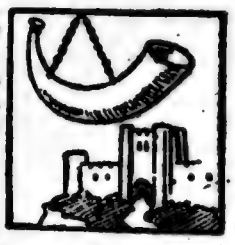
2nd Prize, £100; 3rd Prize, £50; and 1,000 Other Prizes.

The Editor of *Pearson's Weekly* has selected a number of names of railway stations in the United Kingdom. He has handed this list of stations to an artist, and instructed him to draw pictures representing the names of the stations. Six of these pictures are printed here, and six will appear each week in *Pearson's Weekly* for some time to come.

The Editor invites you to discover the name of the railway station represented by each picture.

First of all, look at the example. You will see that the picture shows a horn and a castle. The correct answer is *Horncastle*.

EXAMPLE.



HORNCASTLE.

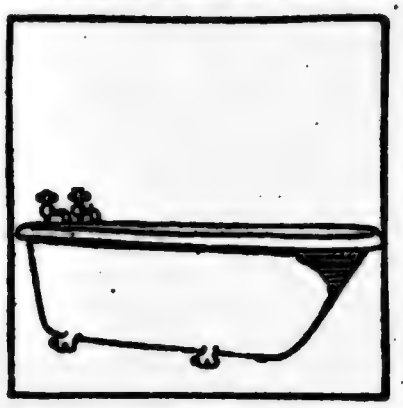
Now write clearly, in ink, under each picture the name of the railway station you think it represents. Only one name is allowed under each picture. Then fill in your name and address. Cut out the pictures and entry form and retain them (together with the others that will appear each week in *Pearson's Weekly*) until the end of the competition. The closing date will be announced later in *Pearson's Weekly*.

The prize of £1 a Day for Life will be paid to the competitor from whom the Editor of *Pearson's Weekly* receives a complete series of pictures containing all the names correct under the conditions printed in *Pearson's Weekly*. The correct names are those of the actual stations represented by the artist in the pictures. If no competitor sends in a correct list of names, the sum of £1,000 will be paid to the sender of the most nearly correct.

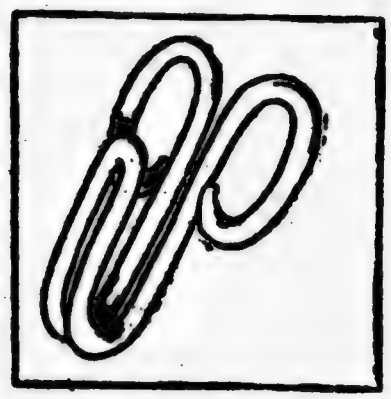
Cut Across Here

You May Use This Set of Pictures and Entry Form.

1.....

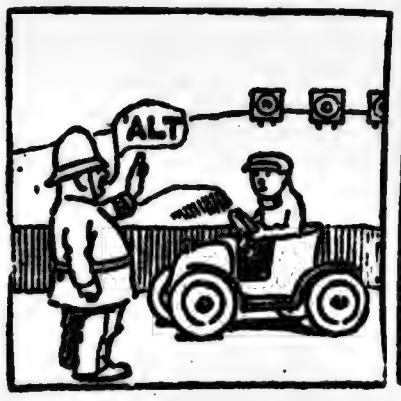


2.....



3.....

4.....



5.....

6.....

ENTRY FORM.

Name.....

K. Address.....

.....

Cut Across Here

Fuller particulars for your guidance in winning this immense prize will be found in the issue of "Pearson's Weekly" out on Monday, March 16th, and——

☞ The second set of pictures will appear in "Pearson's Weekly" out on Monday, March 23rd. ☜

POLITICAL PATTER.

MR. HOBHOUSE, P.M.G.

(Stage) I've just taken over my latest job—
A jolly fine crib it is!
My friends are remarking: "I see Old Hob
Has done a good stroke of biz.!".
From "'tweeny maid" to the Government
(A subordinate post, you know),
I've sprung at a bound—to my great content—
To be boss of the G.P.O.!

Wonderful how some of us get on, isn't it? Look at me! Postmaster-General! And I don't know any more about post office work than you do! Thus, under our glorious Party system, is ignorance—I should say loyalty—rewarded! Let this be an example for you. So long as you play the Party game, obey the Party Whips, kow-tow to the caucus, and do nothing to annoy the *Daily News*, at any moment you may find yourself President of the Board of Trade—like my dear friend Burns; President of the Local Government Board—like my dear friend Samuel; or Postmaster-General—like your obliged and humble servant, who stands before you. (*A Voice:* How do you learn your duties?) Duties? We have only two duties, and they don't require any teaching. One is too easy, and the other comes natural. Anybody can manage them—especially the last. In the first place, we do exactly what the permanent officials of the Department tell us to do, and in the second place we draw our salary. (*A Voice:* Under the Business Government you'd have to know your job.) Business Government! Bah! That will never be. The people don't want it. (*A Voice:* What about the East Bristol By-Election?) What about it? The Business candidate was beaten, wasn't he? (*A Voice:* He won three thousand votes in three days, and reduced your majority a thousand.) Never mind. Don't revive painful recollections. I want to be happy to-day.' Who wouldn't be, with my luck? Here am I, just pitchforked into a nice job that I know nothing about, at a salary of £50 a week! Could that happen under anything but the Party system? Of course it couldn't. And that's why I'm for Party all the time. Why, if it wasn't for the Party system I might be just an Army officer on hal-pay!

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published in the following issue.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number pay the sum of ONE GUINEA in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a report of all the work done.

The following correct claims have been received:—

Mr. R. H. PHILPOT, 9, High Street, Bromyard, nr. Worcester. February 21st. No. 573,294.

Mr. J. TWEDDLE, 58, Loughboro' Avenue, Sneinton Dale, Nottingham. February 14th. No. 443,202.

Mr. J. W. BINKY, 90, Ampthill Road, Bedford. February 21st. No. 204,637.

Mr. C. J. ADAMS, 6, High St., Coleford, Glos. Feb. 14th. No. 166,734.

Mr. H. BAYNE, Forbes Cottage, Causeway, Kenaway, Fife. January 31st. No. 514,614.

Mr. WM. BATES, 49, Stork Rd., Forest Gate, E. Feb. 14th. No. 673,440.

Mr. E. R. STANLEY JONES, 116, Loughboro' Road, Brixton, S.W. February 21st. No. 319,206.

Miss M. CARNALL, 61, Whieldon Road, Mount Pleasant, Fenton, Staffs. February 21st. No. 125,850.

Mr. WM. BATES, 49, Stork Road, Forest Gate, E. February 14th. No. 673,440.

Mr. F. W. ALDERTON, The Hut, Grosvenor Road, Aldershot. February 21st. No. 811,054.

Mr. A. E. MATTHEWS, 43, George St., Coventry. Feb. 28th. No. 060,839.

Mr. J. THOMPSON, 40, New Village, Braintham, near Manningtree. February 28th. No. 204,631.

Mr. E. MENDOZA, 20, Houghton Street, Liverpool. February 21st. No. 114,125.

Mr. H. HIGGIN, 67, Grey Street, Burnley. February 7th. No. 123,712.

Mr. F. DINNING, Woodbury, Devon. February 28th. No. 757,637.

Mr. JAMES HEXHAM, 58, Cavendish Street, Barrow-in-Furness. February 28th. No. 227,456.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of March 14th:—

007966	197968	393156	593833	773797
031656	217165	423351	599210	815604
049273	233201	446523	603769	886167
078259	243309	463253	637256	934212
090329	267965	486461	657916	914621
103787	277729	494037	683953	954105
112373	324325	504458	694533	990012
151703	344110	515327	703770	A000036
164639	352270	555052	726926	A035042
187079	355833	567937	742658	A038373

The A prefixed to a drawn number indicates it is plus a million.

The Fifty Numbers for a copy of this week will be announced in our next issue (published on March 28th).

AN UNCROWNED FIELD.

Lucrative and Congenial Work for Spare Time.

Lettering, especially as applied to Window Tickets, Posters and Signs, is extremely lucrative work, offering fine scope to enterprising young men, and it has the advantage of being a field which is anything but over-crowded.

On the contrary, the improvement in all kinds of commercially applied design has created an enormous demand for more artistic and effective window tickets and signs than the old-fashioned ticket writer and sign painter can supply.

If you have a taste for drawing you can quickly become proficient in lettering, and should be able to make from 30s. to 50s. a week in your spare time by this fascinating work.

Tuition till proficient is given by post by the Practical Correspondence College of 122, Thanet House, Strand, W.C., an institution which has probably enabled more people to convert their talent into a marketable commodity than any similar British institution in existence.

The instruction is conducted, by post, personally by Mr. C. Wroughton Smith, who is admittedly one of the leading pictorial sign artists and lettering experts in the Kingdom. For thoroughness and practical value, the P.C.C. lesson papers and individual criticism of the students' exercises is unrivalled by any correspondence college in the world.

Every applicant for instruction is required to submit a specimen of work before enrolment. If accepted, the student's ultimate success is practically assured, provided he applies himself to the instruction. The P.C.C. will not accept incapable students, because they have a reputation to maintain for making every student successful.

The training is intended for enterprising men who are seriously ambitious of permanently increasing their earnings. The inclusive fee is only a few pounds and every effort is made to assist students to earn more than the fee before completing the course; this has been done by hundreds of P.C.C. students.

Print the word "EARNING" in bold one-inch capitals and send it to the Secretary of the P.C.C. for free personal criticism by the Director of Instruction. (State age and occupation.) If your work shows sufficient promise you will receive full particulars of the course, and can then decide whether or not you will take advantage of training which cannot fail to be of real and permanent money-earning value to you.

HOW TO GET RID OF CATARRH.

A Simple, Safe, Reliable Way, and it Costs Nothing to Try.

Those who suffer from catarrh know its miseries. There is no need of this suffering. You can get rid of it by a simple, safe, inexpensive, home treatment discovered by Dr. Blosser, who, for over thirty-six years, has been treating catarrh successfully.

His treatment is unlike any other. It is not a spray, douche, salve, cream, or inhaler, but it is a more direct and thorough treatment than any of these. It cleans out the head, nose, throat, and lungs so that you can again breathe freely and sleep without that stopped-up feeling that all catarrh sufferers have. It heals the diseased mucous membranes and arrests the foul discharge, so that you will not be constantly blowing your nose and spitting, and at the same time it does not poison the system and ruin the stomach, as internal medicines do.

If you want to test this treatment without cost, send your address to Dr. Blosser, Ltd. (Dept. 21 B), 8, Bouverie Street, London, E.C., who will send you by return post enough of the medicine to satisfy you that it is all they claim for it as a remedy for catarrh, catarrhal headaches, catarrhal deafness, asthma, bronchitis, colds, and all catarrhal complications. They will also send you free an illustrated booklet. Write them immediately. On sale at Boots' Cash Chemists and other chemists' shops.

Learn to SKETCH in 2 hours

Our Booklet S. sent post free, will tell you all about it. Write to-day to Secretary, A. B. C. School of Drawing, 46 Chancery Lane, London.

A VERY IMPORTANT ALTERATION

It has been decided by the proprietors of the new week-end guide previously announced as the "The Racing Journal," which is to be published for the first time on Friday, March 27th, that in order to avoid any confusion the name of the paper is changed to

THE RACING ORACLE.

Edited by "HERMIT." 1d. Order from your newsagent to-day.

50% of the "Midland's" business is made up of repeat orders from delighted customers.

Oak Bureau Bookcase, soundly constructed, with leaded light glass doors and fitted with fall front, 3 ft. wide, 7 ft. high, 16 in. deep. £4 15s. 0d.

"It's because I've been there before

That's why I always go back to the 'Midland' for any furniture I want. At the 'Midland' Salons I get £100,000 worth of furniture to choose from; and it's the right kind of furniture; everything of sterling quality, in design as well as in workmanship."

Money buys more at the "Midland."

You ought to go yourself and see the series of beautifully furnished rooms and completely equipped flats now on view there. The price of every piece of furniture is marked in plain figures; and you have only to compare those figures with what you would be charged elsewhere to realise—what I know from long experience—that the 'Midland' does in actual fact give you the utmost possible value for every sixpence you spend.

They charge nothing for credit—no interest or deposit. Customers can obtain free insurance policies whereby all furniture purchased on Ideal Terms becomes the absolute property of the wife, in the event of the death of the purchaser. All Furniture thus purchased is also insured against fire free.

Lyre design Settee, exceedingly well sprung and upholstered. Covered in cretonne or art tapestry to customer's choice. £3 18s. 6d.

Write for the "Midland" Book of Furniture.

This new and very handsome volume—the finest and most comprehensive guide to furnishing ever published—contains over 1,000 photographs actually taken in our Furniture Salons. It will be sent free on receipt of a postcard with your address.

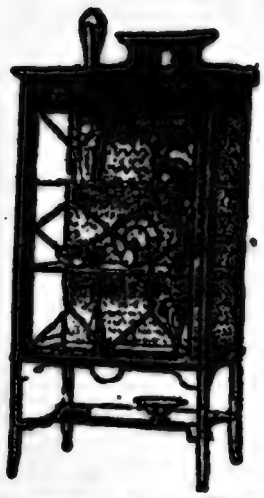
Ideal Terms (Town or Country)

Worth.	Per Mth.	Worth.	Per Mth.
£10	£0 6 0	£50	£1 8 0
£20	0 11 0	£100	2 5 0
£30	0 17 0	£200	4 10 0
£40	1 5 0	£500	11 5 0

Larger amounts pro rata.

10% Discount for Cash.

Large and comfortable Easy Chair, beautifully upholstered and covered in tapestry or cretonne. £2 2s. 0d.



Sheraton style China Cabinet, Boxwood Stringing and Inlay, the back and shelves lined with brocade. £4 4s. 0d.

New Tea Room,

Smoking Lounge and Writing Room now open, for the convenience of our customers, no charge being made.

No Branch Establishments.

Customers Fares Paid.

Customers' Fares Paid to town on all orders of £20 and over.

Country Orders packed and delivered free.

Well-made Bedroom Suite in Oak, handsomely designed. A typical example of "Midland" value. With two rush-seated Chairs. £6 16s. 6d.

Midland

Furnishing Company, Ltd.,

Contractors to H.M. Crown Agents for the Colonies,

15 to 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

Seven doors from Holborn and Holborn Tube Station.
1 minute from British Museum Tube Station.

Hours—9 till 8. Saturdays—9 till 1.

Governing Director, GEORGE MICHAEL (who has been associated with the business for 40 years).

A "BULLETS" WINNER'S THANKS.

Mr. Ernest A. Chapman, of 106, Lisvane Street, Cardiff, the winner of the First Prize in our 73rd "Bullets" Competition, writes:—

I beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, enclosing cheque for £500.

I am engaged on the staff of the Glamorgan County Council, having been in my present position for a little over a year. I have previously held posts at Somerset House and under the West Riding County Council. On reaching the office this morning I was greeted with a hearty ovation from the members of the staff, who had already heard the good tidings.

Though I have competed and won prizes in other competitions, I have for some time past confined my attention absolutely to "Bullets." Last summer, whilst in London, I availed myself of the opportunity of seeing the judges at work, and this, apart from other considerations, served to convince me that everything was "above board." On the same day I called at the office of a contemporary running competitions, but found the gates firmly barred against the would-be visitor.

It may be interesting to fellow competitors to know that prior to my present success I have won the third prize of £10, one of £5, and a number of consolations in the "Bullets" competition. Since winning the third prize a year ago, I have always felt that there was no reason why, with perseverance and a careful study of the winning lines, I should not eventually capture the premier award.

I have pleasure in sending £5 for the "Human Document" Fund.

Even had the Judges in the Divisional Court not decided unanimously that such competitions as "Bullets" are contests of skill, the progressive nature of Mr. Chapman's achievements in it would have conclusively proved that "practice makes perfect" in this as in most other tests of merit.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR!

A GEM FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

"I want to know if you reciced my letter I want to know if you have seen Mr. ——— about it the 4 shillings and if Mr. ——— if going to send it on if not I will gow to some wone in the town witch will make him suffer for it."—(*Postcard without address of sender*).

OUR (MAD) POET'S CORNER.

CHARITY.

1st Spasm.

Charity begins at home,
But quickly hastens from
The scene, and travels off across the seas
To clothe the "poor benighted"
Who are really quite delighted
To be naked, and don't wish to hide their knees.

2nd Spasm.

The nigger who wears "clouts"
Tied around his whereabouts,
Isn't thankful for the trousers and the coat;
And it is a thousand pities
That the poor of our big cities
Do not have the same advantages he's got.

3rd Spasm.

The dear old maid who knits
Comforters and woollen "mits"
And fancy socks for dusky warriors' feet;
Gives cheques in three round "figgers"
To buy hats for greasy niggers,
Never notices the naked down the street.

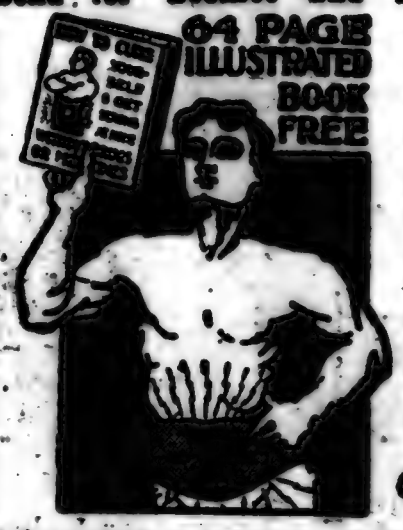
4th Spasm.

These kind folks are too "far-sighted"
To see the "poor benighted"
Who are naked, homeless, hungry, here in scores.
There's just one thing to do,
Send our poor to Timbuctoo
And bring the bally niggers to our shores!

FREE Unique STRENGTH Course For WEAK MEN and WOMEN

USUAL PRICE OF FREE COURSE IS **5 GUINEAS.**

Send for Booklet and Full Details.



This fascinating book is gladly sent to all who apply on the coupon for a free Five Guinea Strength Course, describes the Pulvermacher (all British) Body Batteries for creating new Nerves and Strength without resorting to drugs and medicines. So intense and penetrative is the Natural Electricity poured into the weakened system that it has restored the FAILING POWERS and CONSTITUTIONAL VIGOUR of thousands of Debilitated men and women. Each Battery consists of up to 100 complete Electricity generating cells made on the Pulvermacher Patent flexible chain system to fit any part of the body or limbs like a glove. It does not bother you a bit. You can walk, ride, jump, or run with it on. You wear it an hour or two now and then. It stands any test. Its non-shocking current penetrates to the remotest tissues and nerves. It reawakens every form of debilitated tissue to instant activity, soothes pain, tones up the nervous system, accelerates circulation and promotes respiration, digestion and assimilation. Pulvermacher's are the only Body Batteries recommended by the leading physicians of H.M. London Hospitals, over fifty members of the Royal College of Physicians and many Physicians to Royalty.

TO PROVE THIS WE ARE GIVING 1,000 5-GUINEA STRONG BODIES FREE OF CHARGE.

To all sufferers from Vital or Functional Weakness, Lost Vitality, Varicocele, Insomnia, Kidneys, Liver, and Stomach Troubles, Constipation, Dyspepsia, Female Ailments, &c.; in fact, every weak man or woman who has tried drugs and medicines in vain.

Any "John Bull" reader who suffers from diminishing strength, etc., is entitled to this valuable inducement offer, together with a free copy of our "Health Guide" on Curative Electricity, explaining how you may cure yourself and restore your failing powers without drugs. Merely send your name and address.

J. L. PULVERMACHER & Co., Ltd.,
83, Vulcan House, 56, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

"THE HOUNSLOW RACING CRITIC."

Edited by H. HIBBERT. (Established 1900.)

The Most Up-to-date Racing Special.
Published at 4 p.m. each Monday. Price 2s. 6d.

THE LINCOLN and NATIONAL.
Both Good — Remember I Stood

COVERTCOAT, a certainty when 100 to 6 for the NATIONAL.
JERRY M (when 100 to 8) a cert. for the GRAND NATIONAL.

I also finished the season of 1912 by standing:—

LORENZO, HAP .. .. won 100 to 9 for the LIVERPOOL CUP.
MUSTAPHA, HAP .. .. won 10 to 1 for the GROSVENOR CUP.
AYE AYE, HAP .. .. won 12½ to 1 for the DERBY CUP.
LADY EILEEN, HAP .. won 10 to 1 for the NEWBURY CUP.
WAGSTAFF, HAP .. .. won 8 to 1 for the MANCHESTER NOVEMBER HANDICAP.

The last five Principal Handicap Winners.

Again in 1911, I started the Flat Race Season with:—

MERCUTIO, HAP .. .. won, Sent when 29 to 1 for the LINCOLN HANDICAP.
ROCHESTER, HAP .. .. won 12½ to 1 for the NEWBURY CUP.
ORIGO, HAP .. .. won 8½ to 1 for the QUEEN'S PRIZE at KEMPTON.
KILBRONEY, HAP .. .. won 6 to 1 for the GREAT METROPOLITAN.
MUSHROOM, HAP .. .. won 8 to 1 for the CITY and SUBURBAN.

The first Five Principal Handicap Winners on the Flat. My success in the Principal Events were Phenomenal. No comment is required.

During the 14 years I have been before the Public I have given the Winners of almost every Principal Event. I will forfeit £1,000 if the above is not correct.

The result of my Occasional One Horse Wires, worked on my new method for 14 years with a £20 Bank, shows a clear profit of £4,331 8s. 4d.

I make a special study of Principal Events, and only two Selections each day are given.

To all Subscribers I will send two private letters each week, giving the latest Selections for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday's Racing.

All orders "THE HOUNSLOW RACING CRITIC" for March 23rd, 1914 will receive a private letter by return of post, giving the great Double Event.

The LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP and the GRAND NATIONAL.

Post 2s. 6d. immediately and get on at once.

ADDRESS:—

H. HIBBERT, FLORINDA LODGE, HOUNSLOW.

A. H. WESTWOOD, COMMISSION AGENT,

39, YORK PLACE, EDINBURGH.

FREE POSTAGE.
Stamped addressed envelopes sent to all Clients.

FREE TELEGRAMS.
Cost of losing wires allowed.

DAILY ACCOUNTS.
Winnings dispatched immediately results are known. They are sent by telegram, free of extra cost, at client's request. (*See rules.*)

NO LIMIT.

SYSTEMS.
Any feasible working undertaken and No Commission charged.

FUTURE EVENTS.
"Paper Prices" Guaranteed, as quoted at the time instructions are DISPATCHED. Full Prices on "Doubles," "Trebles," etc., and vouchers sent by return post.

BOOKS NOW OPEN
on Lincolnshire Handicap, Grand National, Great Metropolitan, City and Suburban, Great Jubilee, Derby, etc.

I do not specialise in ONE particular branch of business; no matter in what direction your interest lies, whether it be STARTING PRICE, FUTURE EVENTS, or SYSTEMATIC Speculation, by entrusting your commissions to me you ensure them being executed in a THOROUGH manner. People trained by me in my different departments now hold responsible positions in practically every recognised firm on the Continent. *Verb. sap.*

The "LITTLE BLUE BOOK," containing Terms, Ready Reckoner, etc., will be sent Post Free on receipt of postcard (½d. postage) giving your name and address.

WHY SEND YOUR INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CONTINENT ??

"HONESTY AND INTEGRITY."

A. F. SMALLMAN,

London & Geneva, Switzerland.

NO LIMIT.

Place Betting when Favourite Starts Odds On.

For DAILY or WEEKLY credit accounts apply to
DUKE HOUSE, 28, DUKE STREET, ST. JAMES, LONDON, S.W.

Deposit Accounts—GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

FUTURE EVENTS A SPECIALITY. NO CRAMPED PRICES.

Every attention given to all Clients' business, whether large or small.

Prompt Payments and Courteous Treatment.

MASSAGE AS A PROFESSION.

One of our students writes, "I earn from £3 to £15 a week"; another, "I get a guinea per visit"; another, "I treat twenty patients a day, two being Doctors." We stake our reputation on the truth of the above originals in our possession. The training is not expensive.

Send for Prospectus to

STANLEY FLEMMER,
141, Marylebone Road, London, N.W.

Established 1882.

T. GUNTRIP & SONS,

Turf Accountants,

The Park, Catford, London.

Terms on Application.

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation :—

Is Lord Newton prepared to "back" his Bill?
Isn't a "sovereign" remedy what Portugal wants?
Is the new play, "The Marriage Contract," a comedy?
Why doesn't Christabel come home and "help mother"?
Has Masterman gone abroad because he is feeling "sick"?
Isn't General Smuts just the man to make a clean sweep?
Isn't "Mpret" of Albania really short for "Emperorette"?
Didn't the bogus Crown Prince "take a rise" out of Grahame-White?
Have you ever brought a coup off with a coupon? See page 38.
Will the Plumage Bill provide the Government with its only feather?
Is the suffragette affair the only "outrage" at the National Gallery?
Does the "solution" of the Home Rule problem need a "dis" in front of it?

• • •

"A violin is a luxury," says Judge Roberts. Not for the man next door.

• • •

The trouble with the girl who is good-for-nothing is that she won't be.

• • •

The latest French shoes have heels over eight inches high. The height of absurdity.

• • •

"So the World Wags" is the title of a new book. Is the "tail" a moving one?

• • •

"The Girl Who Didn't" has been withdrawn. Apparently the title was prophetic.

• • •

"Cigarette Cost 24 Lives," we read. It must have been one of the "undertaker" brand.

• • •

"The Passing of the Slit Skirt," runs a heading. It will, as usual, be watched with interest.

• • •

Milan is stated to possess a tenor who is called "Tincani." We have several who ought to be.

• • •

Douglas is to have its sea-front illuminated with electricity. They want to make a Bright 'un of it.

• • •

A Suffolk labourer has had to pay 15s. for stealing an egg. He won't care for them "poached" now.

• • •

"The Blast" is the name of a new quarterly. It will, of course, begin with a few preliminary "puffs."

• • •

"Detectives Under a Bed," reads a headline. One can hear them whispering, "We'll have him in a tick."

• • •

Over 32 millions is spent on smoking in the United Kingdom, it is stated. Some folk have "money to burn."

• • •

"The invasion of England would be murder," says the Rev. J. M. Gibbon. We prefer to think of it as suicide.

• • •

The winner of a coin-eating contest in Missouri swallowed nickel money to the value of 19s. Rather a "heavy" meal.

• • •

An Indian minister thinks that Solomon owed his wisdom to his 300 wives. Well, he certainly didn't have it when he married them.

• • •

"Average churchgoers are a wine-sizzlin', gin-fizzin', rangoin', tangoin' bunch," says the Rev. Billy Sunday, U.S.A. They should go to Sunday's school.

• • •

The Constantinople municipality are said to be paying tenpence for every dog's tail produced. We wouldn't give twopence for this tale—it sounds too waggish.

• • •

Canada's first woman judge has been appointed. Those brought before her may expect long sentences.

• • •

"Bored Shareholders," we read. The hole was in their pockets, no doubt.

• • •

"Barbed Wire" is the title of a new book. The critics will have to be careful how they handle it.

• • •

A "Portmanteau lifeboat" has been invented. Any man may actually carry his life in his hand now.

Printer's Pie.

(The Work of the "Devil.")

"Evening Express" (Liverpool) heading :—
"Developing West Kirby. Unique Attraction for Visitors. Cemetery on Grange Hill."

"Daily Mirror" :—
"The film will be on view from to-night at the principal halls of London and other large Provincial Towns."

"Lynn News" :—
Mr. J. W. Beeton, of Hunstanton, was born on February 29, 1836. In a few years he will be able to celebrate his Twentieth birthday."

Partick Picture House Placard :—
"Why girls Leave Home—for Three Nights."

"Daily Mail" :—
"Health Exercises for Women. It is really extraordinary what good they derive from deep breathing exercises at the open window every morning, and then emulating the ballet dancer, by kicking out six times as high as the foot can go."

"Evening Telegraph and Post" (Dundee) :—
"They (the Dundee Football Club) have done uncommonly well, securing 7 points out of the last away games, which singularly enough, have all been played away from home."

"Daily Record and Mail" (Glasgow) advertisement :—
"Edinburgh.—Wanted, room, one bed, with widow preferred; state terms. 3313, *Record* Office."

"Cambria Daily Leader" :—
"Miss Davies is an accomplished musician, and like her husband has taken a keen interest in church work."

"Lincolnshire Daily Post" heading :—
"Lady passenger misses bag while asleep."

"Sheffield Daily Telegraph" report :—
"At the kick-off there were over 40,000 people present, including a large contingent in special trains from Sunderland."

Kenilworth Salvation Army placard :—
"General Open Air Meetings will be held about Kenilworth, commencing at 1 p.m. at White Moor. Doors open at 6 p.m.

"Sunday Chronicle" report :—
"While the wintry sun gleamed from the clouds and shone into their eyes, Burnley's defenders were never in difficulties. Let me say at once that they fought those difficulties with a splendid pluck."

"Boston Guardian and Lincolnshire Independent" :—
"On Tuesday a valuable mare belonging to Mrs. Munby, a well-known farmer, gave birth to a pair of fine foals, but unfortunately both the new arrivals expired shortly after death."

"Novel Magazine :—
"He felt for the breeze by putting his head on one side until it touched his cheek."

"Manchester Evening News" :—
"The Paris sewer rate is extremely large and ferocious."

"Comic Life" :—
"The fellow—a good-looking, brawny man—had his arms pinnoned behind him. Yet he seemed to have no fear; and after saluting the King, stood, with head erect, facing him boldly, but not impudently."

Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published in this column. Should more than one competitor call attention to the same blunder, the amount will be forwarded to the sender of the first letter opened. In the case of newspaper cuttings sufficient must be forwarded to identify the name of the journal and date of issue. Envelopes to be marked "Printer's Pie" in the left-hand top corner.

£5 a Week for Life for Easy Picture Puzzles. First Set Free on page 23.

SINGLE-WEEK FOOTBALL SKILL CONTEST.

INCREASE IN PRIZES!

£1,500 FOR AN ALL-CORRECT COUPON

£500 IF ONE ERROR ONLY

£150 MUST BE WON FOR NEXT BEST FORECAST

SINGLE WEEK CONTEST

£50 MUST BE WON FOR THE NEXT BEST FORECAST

£225 MUST BE WON

£25 MUST BE WON FOR A MAUVE COUPON

Having finished with our "Exception Week," we are even now making an exception for this week. We are **increasing our Prize List.** £1,500 is again offered for an all correct coupon, and £500 if one error only. In addition, there are three distinct cash prizes of £150, £50 and £25, so that in any event

£225 MUST BE WON.

This a one-week contest, closing Friday, March 27th, so send in your coupons now. No fees and no goals required—wins and draws only.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO

is to forecast the results of the League games to be played on Saturday, March 28th, given on the entrance form on page 2 of our cover. Before making your forecasts read carefully the new method of marking the Coupon, as explained on the coupon itself.

£1,500 FOR AN ALL-CORRECT COUPON.

The huge sum of £1,500 will be paid to the competitor sending us an entrance form containing correct forecasts of all the matches given which are played to a finish. If, owing to bad weather or other causes, a match is not completed, it will be disregarded. Thus, **ABANDONED MATCHES MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.**

Should it happen that no Entrance Form be received giving the whole of the correct results, £500 will be paid to the competitor whose coupon shows one error only. In the unlikely event of neither the £1,500 nor the £500 being won, we shall in any event pay the cash prize of £150 to the sender of the most correct forecasts, whatever the number—even if only 8 or 10, and £50 to the sender of the next best. In addition we shall pay a cash prize of £25 for the most correct forecast sent on a Mauve Coupon taken from *Mary Bull*. This is a distinct and additional prize—a Mauve Coupon signed by a lady, means the sender has the opportunity of winning not only the £1,500, £500, or £150 and £50, but also an extra £25.

The competition is one of pure skill, and a test of knowledge of form. Competitors should make a point of studying the Football columns of the newspapers.

Our elaborate checking arrangements and our new method of marking the coupon safeguard the interests of our competitors in every way and render even an attempt at fraud impossible. The risk of a coupon being overlooked is totally eliminated.

Our Football Competition department is now under the personal supervision of "McW.," the well-known football writer, late of the "Morning Leader" and "Daily Chronicle."

The RULES and **COUPON** will be found on PAGE 2 of COVER.

£25 "MAUVE" COUPON PRIZE.

We offer a special £25 prize for the best forecast on a "Mauve" Coupon taken from "*Mary Bull*." Thus by using a "Mauve" Coupon competitors have the opportunity of winning not only the £1,500, or the £500 or £150, and £50, but also an additional £25. Being a single-week contest, there is one Mauve Coupon only—in this week's "*Mary Bull*," on sale Friday, March 20th.

SCOTTISH READERS MAY ENTER.

We are now able to accept entries from readers resident in Scotland, so specially invite our Scottish readers to participate in this contest.

Address: JOHN BULL, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. Mark envelope, "Football Contest No. 16." Closing date, Friday, March 27th.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 38 where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. Over 5,000 prizes are to be won this week. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered for the best "Bullet" received, together with other substantial cash prizes.

JOHN BULL £50,000 DERBY SWEEP. - Will readers please bear in mind that we cannot either supply or reply to applications for books of tickets for this sweepstake; nor can we act as agents for receiving and forwarding money for tickets. All communications *must* be addressed direct to Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, Switzerland.

SIDELIGHTS ON PARTY POLITICS.

THE PARTY PRESS.

The journalistic organs of the various political Parties are no more free than is the Party hack in the House of Commons. The purpose of their existence is two-fold—to earn profit; and to further the interests of the political Party whose cause they champion. Their editors are required to be not merely efficient journalists, but strong Party men into the bargain. They must, at any rate, be astute enough to conceal their private political opinions and present to their readers with a show of enthusiasm the policy of the proprietors.

Let us see to what extent an average Party newspaper is entitled to call itself free. We will take any one of the more popular halfpenny journals and examine the system on which it is run.

Presume that the politics of its proprietor are Liberal. Its editor must, and will, hold similar views. He will gather round him a Liberal staff, so far as he is able to do so. The whole atmosphere of the editorial offices will be Liberal—at least in the political sense. The leader writers, the reporters, the writers of "feature" articles, will all be dipped in the same political dye. The purpose of the journal will not so much be to convey unadulterated news, as to present to its readers, subtly and insidiously, the policy of the Liberal Party in every conceivable guise. Simple news items supplied by agencies to Liberal and Tory newspapers alike are, whenever possible, given a turn or a twist that will either cast a shade of ridicule or contempt upon the policy of its political opponents, or exalt its own.

Magnifying incidents that reflect favourably upon its policy, and either ignoring or garbling incidents creditable to the policy of its political opponents, our Liberal newspaper sees no shame in the *suppressio veri* and the *suggestio falsi*. Its reports of Parliamentary debates are instructive examples in the art of judicious omission. Instead of presenting its readers with a true and fair report or unbiased digest of Parliamentary proceedings, it gives abundant space to the speeches of Liberal members and bare mention of the speeches of the Opposition, except, perhaps to magnify a phrase or sentence of which it can make political capital.

But it is in dealing with election results that the Party newspaper shows itself most vividly in its true colours. We have often amused our readers by setting side by side the headlines of opposing journals. An election, the result of which is remarkable only for its indecisiveness, is hailed by one as "A Sweeping Victory for the Unionist Party," and by the other as "A Crushing Blow to the Tories." The figures are manipulated and made to prove anything—such is the obliging character of figures—and each Party congratulates itself upon having given the other, or others, the *coup de grace*.

What is all this jiggery pokery but the logical outcome of intellectual slavery? To be free is to be honest. To be free is to be true. To be free is to scorn the tricks and quibbles which bolster up the decaying Party system. A really free press would give an honest report, a true account of all matters of public interest.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

Legal Inquiries must be addressed to the Legal Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C., and must be accompanied by a Postal Order for a Shilling.

GENERAL.

E. D. (Hull).—Take no notice of professional anti-gamblers of the Gulland type.

THE MIDLAND MERCANTILE AGENCY, of 7, Warwick Road, Coventry, desire to be dissociated from the people trading under the same style at Tipton, and who send out dunning letters on behalf of the rascal Haddon.

"*Nil Desperandum*" (Kirby).—That's the right motto to adopt.

"QUESTIONS" (London).—We really have not time, or inclination, to study thoroughly the "high literary excellence" of our unhappy contemporary.

F. E. D. (Hampstead).—We see nothing to be proud of in shooting a wild swan. The man who did it was a goose, to say the least.

E. H. S. (Christiania).—Our reference to the bogus directory trick conveyed no reflection upon Kelly's, it goes without saying. We regret we cannot send you copies of the numbers you ask for, as they are now out of print.

F. O. B. (South Woodford).—We have repeatedly warned readers against *Bot's Weekly*. You will notice that the addresses of alleged prize-winners are not given.

E. W. B. (Nottingham).—No, we do not think we are blowing hot and cold. But it would not be surprising if we were, considering the changeable weather.

"PAX" (Birkenhead).—We doubt if you will ever *requiescat in pace* if you send £5 to the correspondence college for your son to be taught journalism. Put him in a newspaper office. That is the only safe plan—and the cheapest.

"MAYO."—Chief Constables are paid to do their duty. When they neglect it, we consider it our duty to give them a reminder. We don't quite see why you should call us Kill-joys and Kill-sports because we discountenance the smuggling of tobacco. But as you write from Ireland we presume you are naturally lawless. That, of course, is only our little joke.

L. G. H. F. (Montreal).—All our statements concerning Canada are based upon authentic information.

MR. ARNOLD SAFRONI-MIDDLETON, of 70, Wolfington Road, West Norwood, asks us to make it quite clear to our readers that he is not Arnold Middleton, the bogus theatrical agent, who, following our exposure, is now enjoying his Majesty's hospitality. Mr. Safroni-Middleton is a musical composer and conductor, and confusion might, therefore, arise, especially as we gather that he has sometimes used professionally the name of "Arnold Middleton."

J. M. (Liverpool).—Why do you use a false address? What a dirty dog you must be!

"MARGATE READER" and MANY OTHERS.—Thanks for your appreciation of our part in the Starchfield case.

"FED UP" asks us "not to get it into our head that if we stopped printing JOHN BULL the world would come to an end," and tells us that "it would still go on as usual, and probably no one would miss our precious 'rag.'" "Fed Up" was evidently suffering from a bilious attack.

"MOSBRAY."—The weekly half-holiday provided by the Shops Act, does not apply to the week preceding a Bank or public holiday, or days of public rejoicing or mourning *if the assistant is not employed on that day*, and if he gets a half holiday in addition that week.

W. H. (Shincliffe?).—We do not quite grasp the details of your grievance by your statement of it.

C. F. A. (Millbank).—You should find the information you are seeking in some Directory of Manufacturers.

J. R. M. (Carlisle).—Whenever we hear a parson telling "funny" stories in a "worldly" company with the idea of making himself popular in the midst, we are suspicious. The story you send us cannot receive the imprimatur of our columns. One of the pink papers may be more hospitable.

W. D. (Glasgow).—Yes, the Cake and Candy Sale in your town is "quite clear of the Lottery Act." Hope you were the fortunate Scot authorised to purchase the turkey for one penny, if the bird was really worth the money.

H. A. (Stockport).—People can be honest on a small income as well as a big one, if they want to be. Dishonesty cannot be excused because a man is poor, but the pressure of the temptation may extenuate his wrong-doing.

C. W. D. (East Ham).—If what you say about the Fulham clergyman is true, he did not act as he might have been expected to do in the circumstances; but we cannot accept *ex parte* statements.

ALFRED B. W. M. (Portsmouth).—We agree with the magistrates and do not agree with you. We are not squeamish, as you know, but if the postcard exhibited by the defendant in his shop window was not obscene, and intended to be obscene, then it is evident the definition of obscenity needs revision

T. P. J. (Pantyffynnon).—Consider how utterly unfair it would be, to say nothing of the danger to which it would expose us, to attack a private person in his position as manager, on a one-sided statement as to which we are not in a position to judge of its accuracy or its motive. Have the courage of your convictions, and refer the matter direct to Alderman W. N. Jones, who would no doubt investigate the allegations.

"READER" (Reading).—What do we think of the advertisement on page 4 of the Reading publication you send us? Nothing.

J. N. H. (Stoke Newington).—"Would you in your courtesy allow me to express through your columns a vigorous protest against the action of the *Daily Sketch* in publishing——" Certainly not. If you wish to advertise the paper in our columns, apply for terms to the Advertisement Department.

H. F. (Johannesburg).—We have frequently commented on the atrocious accommodation accorded to third-class men and women emigrants on the Australian liners. They seem to be regarded as taken in for ballast.

J. H.—Your medal, granted for service in the first China War, is dated 1842, and you wish to know whether there is an older naval veteran living (you are 88) who has a medal in his own right older than yours? Can anybody oblige?

J. S. F. (Whitstable).—We cannot see any objection to having your local Town Council meetings opened with prayer—if it pleases the Councillors. The fact that opening the proceedings of Parliament with prayer doesn't do the members a bit of good, has nothing to do with the case. Parliament as at present constituted, is past praying for.

"HORATIO" (Victoria, B.C.).—"All the Canadians want is to get the soft Englishmen to part with their good gold, and then they may go to blazes." As we have said a thousand times before, dear sir.

"OPPRESSED" (Jersey).—Signorial rights in Jersey look like being other people's wrongs, but "it is useless applying to the courts here, as one only gets Jersey Justice, many of the Jurats being seigneurs themselves." Many of our land laws at home are also rotten.

E. J. W. (Montreal).—We agree with the statement of the Rev. C. A. Williams, of the St. James's Methodist Church in your town, that "Surely, if all men are God's children, there should be room for all and work for all"; but then if "his" and "ans" were pots and pans there wouldn't be any work even for tinkers. It is the Devil's children who cause all the trouble.

"VISITOR" (Bath).—You lament that Bath is the finest watering place in England, but the Corporation that runs it is obstructive and unbusiness like; the town dull and the entertainments dismal. Now we know the meaning of the scornful remark, "Go to Bath." It seems that the concessionaires under the Bath Corporation have been allowed to disguise the radium water under another name that doesn't smell as sweet. As it "combines agreeably with wines and spirits," this is obviously a grave mistake.

"ANCHOR STOCK" (*s.s. Muncaster Castle*, Yokohama).—"Some few evenings ago the officers and engineers on the above-mentioned vessel came to a discussion on behalf of the Insurance Act, some two years ago. The points we debated upon were the benefits derived from same." Go on debating, dear friends; but if you think you are going to drag us into the entertainment you are mistaken.

H. Y. C. (Holloway).—Yes, we think the Pension sub-committee were legally justified in stopping the pension for the time in the circumstances.

"ALTER EGO" (Mile End Road, E.) declares that she likes us better than *Mary*. Hush! Not a word to the wife!

Another Single-Week Football Contest—Wins and Draws. Prizes Increased. See page 33.

H. W. (Warsop).—You "write to explain the position you are in under the Lloyd George Act." By the same post about 850 others write to explain the position *they* are in under the same Act. The Nottingham Insurance Committee merely refuse you milk; we know of other Committees who have refused patients beer.

"SPORT" (Cardiff).—The announcement of a gent. named Morgan at a meeting of the County School Governors at Barmouth that he had never played football in his life and didn't see why anybody else should do so, does not worry us as much as it does you. What is the earthly purport of Morgan, anyway?

MRS. C. (Birkenhead).—The circular of S. G. Watson and Co., of 144, Otley Road, Bradford, Yorks., says plainly enough: "Goods sent on first payment of 2s. Balance of 2s. per month *after receipt of goods*." By holding your 2s. and refusing to send you the bale of goods till the 18s. balance is paid, they have rendered themselves liable to be sued for breach of contract, and we only wish you were financially in the position to put the law in motion and teach the sharpers a lesson.

A. McK. (Camberwell Green).—It was rather smart of you, in response to "Captain Walter Rand's" invitation to buy one of his "lucky stones," to send him a lucky stone from your garden. We wish someone would send him a grave-stone. We have already supplied a fitting epitaph.

"ALPHA" (Cannon Street, E.C.).—We have heard *ad nauseam* that "A wise old owl sat in an oak, the more he heard the less he spoke; the less he spoke the more he heard; why are not more of us like this wise old bird?" Because we are not owls.

MRS. F. (Balham, S.W.) begins: "Until a mounth ago I have been purchasing tea 2 packets per week at 2s. 4d. per pound on the understanding that I was to receive a present of 3 guineas. It is 1 year and 11 months ago since I first commenced, but no present has been forthcoming." Quite so. Foolish woman! The fact of your being a widow of very slender means will not touch the stony hearts of W. A. Slade and Co., whose address—19A, High Street, Clapham—you tell us is a fictitious one. Why are you poor folks so easily gulled?

"SPIRITUAL TEACHER" (Torquay).—Providence may have created you to make a bull's eye, as you claim, but we are sure never intended you to send us postcards covered with the insane scrawlings of a lunatic. How did you contrive to escape?

S. A. R. (Dover).—When we feel a craving for a bottle of ginger pop we will introduce some customers to your favourite cycle merchant, and claim the liquid commission he offered to "lush you up" with. The other matter you write about we will not touch upon, except to say that it is up to the mother to see the girl keeps straight.

"READER" (Leeds).—You are one of the unutterably clever persons of which this world is full. But you are not aware of the limitations of newspaper founts of type in regard to foreign accents.

W. M. B. (Tooting, S.W.).—The cinematograph operator market is already overcrowded. Wages rarely reach £2 a week. It is therefore not worth your while to pay a fee of £2 2s. to learn the business, unless a situation is guaranteed.

"MORLEY" (Wood Green).—Extract from a letter you have received from a friend in Canada: "1st mortagage rates, 7 per cent.; 2nd ditto, anything from 10 to 15 per cent., and glad to get it. Things out here rotten, with an awful big emphasis. Thousands out of work and newspaper subscriptions to feed the homeless. I hate to see emigration agents waxing fat on poor ignorant devils in England." Every mail brings us hundreds of letters telling a similar story.

A. W. R. (Eastney).—You are correct in assuming that E. Scott and Son, of Selbourne Chambers, Fratton Bridge, Portsmouth, are doing the bonus trick business on much the same lines as Corran and Sons. We are not surprised to hear they "have only got a room above the Insurances Offices at Fratton."

"MRS." (Teddington).—Sorry we cannot tell you why your hubby retains so much cash for his own personal pocket. He is not teetotal by any chance, is he?

EMILY C. (Erdington).—"I am writing to ask if you could dispose of a gold wedding ring, quite new, never worn, and will forward same if you thought you could." Communicate with us when we are in the jewellery or pawnbroking line. At present the paper trade commands all our energies.

"ANXIOUS" (Pantreath).—We cannot advise about other people's competitions, having quite enough to do to manage our own.

W. H. and OTHERS (Old Kent Road).—Over and over again we have pointed out that the Alhambra Warehouse Company, Free Street, Bradford, are tricksters. Demand the return of your deposit, and if they do not send it put them into the County Court.

F. L. (Aberdeen) writes: "I have been dealing with W. Plant and Co., of Liverpool, for a month without finding anything wrong so far." As long as that? You're in luck. But wait and see.

"MARGARET" (Llanbrynmair).—We do not advise you to send 21s. to the Lancashire Supply Stores, Accrington Road, Burnley, for their "monster blanket bale," as you would probably find it is not as big a monster as it looks in the picture advertised.

"TUCK" (Halifax).—The Uneda Tea Company, 23a, Chapel Street, Bradford, save themselves to some extent by saying that they do not hold themselves responsible for fictitious statements made by their agents, though it is obvious the firm must profit by them. You have been buying their stuff since 1912, and you are not yet in rotation for the bonus. Don't forget, however, you may be in rotation by the Resurrection.

"MOTHER" (Sherwood).—After reading our "prints" in our valuable paper you have composed a piece about the "Brave Boy Scouts" which you wish us kindly to put in. Sorry we have room only for the beautiful last verse: "Who knows but what these same Boy Scouts, England's noblest and bravest may be, For they have the best of training, And won't shame his colours not he." This moves us to the core.

F. M. (S.W.).—The firm of patent agents you name would not be our selection. Thanks for your thanks for the "tip" in our Open Letter *re* hatpins.

L. B. (Leeds) gives us his experience in undergoing medical examination by Dr. Collie. His letter does not make pleasant reading, but we have dealt pretty fully with Dr. Collie before.

A. S. C. (Malta) complains about the overcrowding in the married quarters. He says there are as many as eight in a family living in two rooms. What says the Governor?

"PRIVATE—1ST ROYAL FUSILIERS" (Kinsale) tells us that his regiment is worse than the Boy Scouts, and that he will be very glad when his time is up. Cheer Oh!

W. S. (Walworth, S.E.).—If your mother has stood on the same spot for thirty years selling flowers, it seems hard that she should be arrested for obstruction, and be bound over for six months. All she can do is to appeal to the local police for permission to continue her trading in the street.

"MASTER MARINER" (Charlton, S.E.) tells us that his little girl, age 7, is being taught at school to sing "Jesus loves me" in Chinese, but she can't spell rabbit. This is bad enough; but he should be thankful they are not teaching her "Little drops of water" in Welsh.

"CAREFUL" (Sheerness-on-Sea).—You ask whether "Mr. Walter A. Spaal, of 34, Crayford Road, Holloway, N., who professes to be an expert in 'Psycho-Therapeutics and Magnetic Healing' is a genuine practitioner and a man to be relied on." He may be; but for our own part we would rather rely on Epsom salts.

O. G. P. (Toronto).—Thanks for letter describing the terrible labour conditions in Winnipeg. If one could build a bridge between Canada and Britain, what a rush there would be across it from your side!

G. W. PORTER (11, Brookland Road, Birkenhead), a stammerer, wishes to meet other stammerers at his residence to discuss the possible and probable means of cure, but in our opinion this is not one of them. Search at the local Free Library will probably reveal articles or books on the subject. Let him study them carefully, and set himself in private to earnest self-understanding, self-teaching, and self-discipline. As a general rule, stammering is curable.

J. O. wishes us to have the benevolence to help him in a small way, as he is fond of scribbling. When we have laid in a new stock of benevolence after the strain of a busy Christmas season, we will carefully consider his affliction.

H. W. (Dalton-in-Furness).—Mr. Bottomley's Parliamentary record is that of the only Independent Democrat in the House of Commons; independent, moreover, with the consent and approval of his South Hackney constituents.

S. F. (Broughton).—No, dear sir, you cannot catch us that way. How innocent you must think us to try and get from us an opinion about your 2s. blouses, in order to start you in the mail order business on our back!

"BOXER" (H.M.S. *Aquarius*).—We don't advise your parting with preliminary fees to "unclaimed money" agents. When you have claimed the money, and got it, reward their valuable services; not before.

D. M. F. (Dublin).—We have read without wrath your protest against our "one standard belittling" of Mr. Redmond and the Irish Nationalists, and our justification of "Carsonism." "And after all," you add, "JOHN BULL is worthier of better ends than the exaltation of the most disreputable cause known to history." We trust you feel better now.

W. M. (Stoke-on-Trent).—Thanks for the kind practical interest you take in JOHN BULL.

Write to Him, Write to Her, Write to Them with a "John Bull" Pen. Coupon on page iii. of cover

LEGAL.

"WORRIED" (Manchester).—Your legal liability is to pay the cost of the confinement and weekly contributions, not exceeding 5s., towards the maintenance of the child after its birth. The parents might take an action against you to recover damages for seduction. It is your moral duty to do the utmost you can for the girl. Is marriage impossible?

W. B. (Sheffield).—You must pay the debt by instalments, and on the dates as ordered by the Court; otherwise the whole balance becomes immediately due, and if you have the means and do not pay you can be committed to prison for "contempt of Court" without any further warning. If your circumstances have changed since the Order was made you should apply to the Court to vary it.

E. E. A.—It is not compulsory for all wills to be published in the newspapers—thank goodness!—but you can see a copy of the one in which you are interested at Somerset House on payment of a shilling.

"JUSTICE AND BUSINESS" (Margate).—You lend a friend money for which he gives an I.O.U. He repays a substantial part by instalments. He has not made any payment for some months, and you wrote threatening "to prosecute" him. You can sue in the County Court for the balance, and produce the I.O.U. in evidence, but to talk of "a prosecution" in such circumstances is silly.

T. C. (Hockley Heath).—If the employer makes his men pay the whole of the insurance, they should report him to the Insurance Commissioners.

L. D. R. (Gretford).—Wedding presents belong to whichever party they were given to.

B. B. (Woking).—Your husband is not liable for any debts contracted by you before marriage, unless he received money or property from you, when he would be liable to the value of such property. You remain personally liable for such debts; but if you have no separate estate, the creditors cannot recover.

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Inquiry.

YORKSHIRE ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY.—"ELECTRIC."—The company appears to be making steady progress, and if you are prepared to wait a little longer for dividends it would be right to buy some more Ordinary to average. Otherwise you had better confine your attention to the Preference shares, which seem reasonably safe.

EDMONTON CINEMA THEATRE.—K. H. (Edmonton).—(1) It is not a safe concern, and we do not see the remotest prospect of its paying dividends. (2) The management leaves much to be desired, but we cannot draw the conclusion you suggest. (3) If the directors have exceeded their powers there would be ground for a civil action, but nothing else.

ABU TIN.—"NITURA."—It is believed to be a good property, but the shares are quite high enough at about 150 per cent. premium.

MAYPOLE DEFERRED.—B. T. (Weymouth).—The yield at present price is just 5 per cent., and it is a safe enough investment, as the company is in a strong position.

BOOT'S PREFERENCE SHARES.—O. A. E. (Glasgow).—Quite a safe industrial investment.

ANNE DAVEY FIRE EXTINGUISHER.—M. S. (Littlehampton).—There are several of these appliances on the market, but to have any chance of success a large capital expenditure and extensive organisation are necessary. There is no market in these shares, and once you get into small concerns of this kind it is very difficult to get out.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTRIC RAILWAY.—J. A. S. (Durham).—The company is doing well, and although Canadian business is likely to have a sharp set-back, the Preferred and Deferred Ordinary shares may be regarded as a fair speculative investment.

VARIOUS MINES.—W. C. W. (Dorset).—MYALLS AND PEAK HILL GOLD MINES.—Prospects very dubious, but it might be worth risking £3 10s. on the reconstruction, though we are afraid it may be throwing good money after bad. MOUNT LYELL BLOCKS COPPER.—There is just a chance but it is a somewhat remote one. PARINGAS.—Not worth keeping, but you would get precious little for them if you sold.

INVESTMENTS.—S. G. M. (Malvern).—Port of London 3½ per cent. Stock, price 86, yield 4¼ per cent.; North Western Railway Ordinary, price 137, yield 5¼ per cent.; South Metropolitan Gas, price 112, yield 4¼ per cent.; Barclay Perkins 3½ per cent. Debenture Stock, price 70, yield 5 per cent.; Schweppes 7 per cent. Cumulative Ordinary, price 22s. 6d., yield 6¼ per cent.

PANAMA BONDS.—R. R. (Rye).—Cannot you get the information through the firm from which you bought the bonds? If not, you had better try Cunliffe, Russell and Co. again.

FAIRBY'S, LTD.—"CHANTER."—The firm has several well-situated shops, and to all appearance ought to do well. The treatment you have received certainly arouses suspicions, but you are very helpless in companies in whose shares there is no market. If you have any reports or accounts we should be glad to have a look at them.

CASSELL AND CO.—J. R. (Tottenham).—You ought to get between £60 and £65, but it is a narrow market and the price is largely a matter of negotiation.

LOTTERY BONDS.—W. D. C. J. (Cape Town).—We advise you not to have anything to do with Melville Glyn and Co. If you fancy this class of investment apply to Cunliffe, Russell and Co., Paris.

ROUMANIAN OIL WELLS, ETC.—"SCARED."—We are still inclined to think that this concern has good speculative prospects, and we are not affected by the opinions expressed in other papers. SCRANTON EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING COMPANY (Scranton, Pa.).—It is a safe rule to avoid investment in shares for which there is no market unless you have special knowledge, and we make no exception in this case. SERVICE INVESTMENT SOCIETY.—We do not like the concern, and advise you to have nothing to do with it.

JOHN BULL BANK.—A. M. G. (Bexhill).—You must write direct to the Bank for the information you require. The guaranteed interest is Five per Cent., and the proprietor has well demonstrated the possibility of paying it.

MOTOR PETROL ASSOCIATION.—J. D. (Palmer's Green).—We do not recommend you to take shares in this concern.

CITY LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—H. A. R. (Chesterfield).—The Company has enjoyed a steady run of prosperity, and has done well alike for policy and shareholders. It is financially sound. The establishment of an industrial Branch a few years ago has necessarily involved a heavy call upon its resources. Expenses are now being kept well under control, and the outlook is promising from the standpoint of healthy and progressive development.

BRITISH MUTUAL BANKING COMPANY.—"TRUSTLE."—The Bank, having instructed you to send the Deposit Note to the Prudential Assurance Company for endorsement, it will be quite safe for you to act upon their instructions. For proof of delivery, register the envelope.

INSURANCE POLICY.—"ANXIOUS WIDOW."—If the premiums are in arrear beyond the time allowed, the policy is in danger of being lapsed, and all premiums being forfeited to the Company. If you are unable to continue the payments, ascertain from the Agent if you are entitled to a Paid up Policy, and in that event you would be under no obligation to pay any further contributions.

LAW INTEGRITY INSURANCE COMPANY.—M. A. S. (Bristol).—We have not a good opinion of their Certificates, and do not recommend them for the purpose of investment. We prefer the Post Office, or the holding of an Endowment Policy of assurance in one of the well-known and established Offices.

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE COMPANY.—A. G. (Grimsby).—If you are able to prove misrepresentation at the time you were induced to pay the extra premium, you might have a good claim for the return of all the premiums paid, but not otherwise. Having contributed for so many years under a With-Profit Policy, we do not understand why you should be deprived of any bonuses which have been declared, and we fail to appreciate what is meant by the Accumulated Funds Table.

ROYAL LONDON MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—W. G. P. (Portsmouth).—Established in 1910, the Company has made satisfactory progress, and appears to have a good outlook. The financial position is sound. If you are satisfied with the Policy Conditions, we see no reason why you should not continue the assurance.

EAGLE INSURANCE COMPANY.—"PARKY."—The company is safe enough and the recent changes in the management and directorate are regarded as an evidence that plans for progressive development will be encouraged. Hold the policy.

NATIONAL STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—"A CONSTANT READER" (Lydney).—You are correctly informed that a proposal is before the Courts for the amalgamation of this Company with the Hearts of Oak Life and General Assurance Company, whose Head Office is 40, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C. Until the Court sanctions the amalgamation the two companies of course continue to have separate existences, and each is responsible for the carrying out of its contracts towards policyholders. The financial position of the National Standard is by no means strong, and unless the amalgamation is consummated the outlook for the Company must be regarded as extremely unsatisfactory. The Hearts of Oak is in a better position, and the effect of the amalgamation would be to produce economies in management which would give the two companies under one administration a reasonable chance of building up an assured position. We think you might keep the policies going and see what happens.

SPORTING.

Sporting inquiries must be addressed to the Sporting Editor, 52, New Broad Street, E.C.

MONTE CARLO SWEEPSTAKE.—"DILWYN" (Barrow).—We know nothing of this. Confine yourself to those for whose *bona fides* we can vouch.

"THE MAN IN THE MOON."—"PATTINS" (Stockport).—Better leave him there.

T. G. SYNDICATE (Geneva).—R. B. (Wood Green).—We have no personal knowledge of these people's Derby Sweeps, but have already explained that they are *not* run under the auspices of The Turf Guardian Society.

"LONDON MAIL" DERBY SWEEP.—"INQUIRER" (Clydebank).—Quite a genuine concern.

SPORTING SWEEPSTAKES.—J. J. (Conway), UNSETTLED, AND OTHERS.—You will have seen our answer to the *Daily Mail*.

JOHN BULL DERBY SWEEP.—"SWEEP" (Derby).—The phrase "cash prizes" means Cash Consolation Prizes, which are payable irrespective of horses drawn, and which may, therefore, be sent out immediately after the Draw.

H. T. TERRY (Geneva).—"WILLIAM."—Yes, Mr. Terry is quite trustworthy. You are apparently at sea, however, in your calculations.

BRITISH INVESTMENT AGENCY (Geneva).—J. W. D. (Stockport).—We do not advise you to do business with these people.

BOUVERET SPORTS CLUB.—W. L. (Malvern).—The only objection we have to these people's sweepstakes is that by the wording of their circular they lead subscribers to anticipate that the prizes will be much larger than they really are.

JOHN BULL DERBY SWEEP.—"BRONX" (New York City).—We are in a position to vouch for the *bona fides* of this sweep, and you may rest assured that you will have "a perfectly fair deal." The same remark applies to the sweeps conducted by Mr. Patrick O'Brien, of Lucerne, and The Totalisator, Lucerne. You can, of course, send your communications through some friend in England.

THE TOTALISATOR (Lucerne).—G. W. C. (Liverpool).—We note the courteous and generous manner in which you have been treated by this firm, and reciprocate your good wishes.

PATRICK O'BRIEN'S GRAND NATIONAL SWEEP.—"EAGER."—You will have to hurry up. Wednesday, the 18th, is the last day for posting.

H. DIAMOND (Lucerne).—"PERPLEXED" (Dalmuir.)—We note that you are "highly pleased" with the razor outfit you have received as a bonus from Mr. Diamond. We have satisfied ourselves that he conducts his sweepstake business in a straightforward and honourable manner, and you may rely upon your ticket being duly included in the Draw.

ALFRED H. MAURICE.—S. H. C. (Holborn).—Quite straight, we believe.

Important to Readers of "John Bull." Turn to page 23.

CITY NOTES.

(For Financial and Insurance Letter-Box, see Letter Bag pages.)

The Stock Markets.

No satisfactory progress can be recorded in Stock Exchange affairs, and although efforts have been made to infuse a little enthusiasm into certain sections, the general feeling has become rather more pessimistic. The settlement was got through without any difficulties coming to the surface; but there were rumours of trouble and widespread liquidation lent colour to the belief that there was more than a grain of truth in them. Apart from that, the Brazilian position, and its effect on Paris, is having a very depressing influence, and so long as the public show no disposition to come in, the outlook is not very promising. The chief hope of a revival lies in the prospect of cheap money after the turn of the month, which ought to give a decided fillip to investment business, and more speculative ventures ought also to get a turn. Meantime, prices for the most part show a drifting tendency and the comparative failure of most new issues does not help matters. Underwriters of the Vancouver loan were left with 80 per cent., but on the other hand Harrod's (Buenos Aires) Ordinary shares were over-subscribed about eight times, so there is evidently plenty of money for those who can hit the public taste. Home Rails have been quietly steady, and it is hoped that Yankees have touched bottom now that trade in the States is beginning to revive, but there are still many adverse factors in the situation. Canadian Pacifics have slumped rather badly, and Hudson's Bays also have dropped. Among Mines Kaffirs are neglected, and are more likely to go lower than to improve, the only bright spots being the Russian and Barrier groups. The former is a pure gamble, but the latter has decided merits. Rubbers have not held their ground, in spite of the favourable results of the auctions, and Oils have a very dead and alive appearance, except for a few outside shares which are easily manipulated by the "shops."

The Mining "Wonder-Zoo."

It might have been supposed that the public had had enough experience of Russian mining ventures, but there is still a wild gamble in Russo-Asiatics and Russian Mining Corporations. We have seen the same thing before in Siberian Props., Orsks, Troitzks, etc., etc., and the end has been similar in nearly every case—the public are left with the paper and the clever division with the hard cash. Round about 7 the Russo-Asiatic is valued in the market at over £2,000,000, and even if all the favourable statements about the property prove to be justified, it will take several years and a great expenditure of capital before the shareholders can possibly see any return on their investment. This was clearly indicated at the recent meeting by the Chairman, who advised caution; but the market is in sharp hands, and it goes soaring up irrespective of merits or prospects. There will be sore heads one day for those who are not smart enough to take their profits; but it is a pretty gamble while it lasts.

United Investors (Winnipeg)

Mr. Alex. Noble, of 100, Princes Street, Edinburgh, and representative of this land-pushing concern in Britain, takes exception to the advice we gave a correspondent last week not to have anything to do with the company. Of course it is a matter of opinion, and it is only natural in the circumstances that Mr. Noble should disagree with our views. He says the company has paid two dividends of 15 per cent. each, and he sends a copy of the balance-sheet to show that substantial profits have been earned. He also sends a pamphlet, called a "prospectus," which might be considered a gem of its kind if the country had not been flooded with similar literature. "Winnipeg is the hub of Canada," we are told, and in ten years the value of "down-town property" has increased ten, twenty or thirty times, specific instances being quoted to prove the fact. "Almost unmeasured prosperity smoothed economic frowns from coast to coast last year, because opportunities existed, were recognised and embraced." And much more to the same effect—all so entertaining that it is with regret we do not find it equally convincing, or providing sufficient reason why people here should buy at inflated prices land which they have never seen and are never likely to see. They can find much more amusing ways of spending their money.

Exit Partington.

Another bucket-shop keeper has retired into enforced solitude for fifteen months. His name is James Partington. His career so far has been as follows:—Since 1900 he traded as an outside broker; was made bankrupt under the name of "Barclay and Co." in Manchester, and was put into prison in connection with some fraudulent dealings. In 1912 he was carrying on a similar business in London under the name of "Anthony Hawkins and Son," and latterly under the titles of the Empire Share Exchange and the Empire Investment Corporation. Meanwhile, his son was set up by him as "F. Bryant and Co.," at Liverpool, and is now undergoing nine months' hard labour for fraud in connection with that business. That these people should be under lock and key is quite satisfactory; but what were the police about to give them such a length of rope? Surely, in view of the evidence by Inspector McLean that the elder Partington was "the most unscrupulous man he had ever met," his career should have been cut short long ere this?

Afrikander Impropriety.

The directors of the Afrikander Proprietary Gold Mines, Ltd., propose to have a field-day all to themselves at Johannesburg on May 12th, when their cut-and-dried scheme for reducing the capital from £280,000 to £44,800 is to be carried. This done, the capital is to be at once doubled and £44,800 is to be raised by a fresh issue of shares at par. With the proceeds the company's liabilities are to be paid off, and a sum of £5,000, approximately, is to remain as working capital. Operations on the property were suspended three years ago, and it has cost the company £3,653 in licences alone to keep the claims alive, and another £4,574 for caretaking, insurance, &c., so that, reckoning directors' fees and clerical charges, some £3,000 is required every year for keeping operations suspended. As it is not suggested that they are to be recommenced at an early date, the money to be raised now appears to be intended to benefit creditors only. As the history of the company embraces a quarter of a century's scratching of ground at Klerksdorp, without tangible results except four reconstructions, the concern ought to be buried decently. But the directors intend to have another run with the shareholders' money, and as the scheme is to be put through at meetings where European members will find it difficult to be represented, it will no doubt go through, unless another Aubrey Hyman arises to make mince-meat of the proposals, as he did of those of the Robinson directors.

Yankee Financial Methods.

A very nasty impression was created by the charge brought against the Chicago Milwaukee Railroad—that its gross receipts had been overstated by £1,000,000. Apologists of the company hastened to declare that the discrepancy was purely technical and did not in the least affect the earnings, but there is a general feeling that there must have been some reason for manipulating the figures and that the Inter-state Commission would not have called pointed attention to the matter without furnishing the explanation if it is quite satisfactory. This is not the first time an important American railway has been accused of "cooking" its accounts. We remember the sensation caused in 1893 by the disclosure of serious irregularities in the case of the Baltimore and Ohio, whose stocks were very largely held on this side. That is an old, almost forgotten story, but there is too much reason to believe that even at the present day Yankee railway bosses have little scruple about making the position look better or worse than it really is, according as it suits some particular object they have in view. A good many things can be urged against the management of English railways, but at any rate they work on definite lines of policy which can be understood by anyone who takes the trouble to examine their accounts.

John Bull, Limited.

Dividend Warrants in respect of the Six Per Cent. Preference Shares have been posted for the year 1913. The question of a distribution upon the Ordinary Shares is under consideration. The Preference Shares are convertible at the option of the holders, into Ordinary.

Result of Our No. 13 Football Contest. Winners on page 5.

CASH FOR CLEVERNESS!

YOUR SKILL CAN WIN YOU £500.

TRY "Bullets"—the Best-Judged Competition with most Prizes.

First Prize. **£500.** **First Prize.**

2nd Prize	3rd Prize	20 Prizes of	50 Prizes of
£50	£25	£2-10-0	£1 EACH.

500 PRIZES OF 5s. AND **2,500 PRIZES OF 2/6**

2,000 OTHER HANDSOME PRIZES.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of the 40 Examples:—

THE MARRIAGE SERVICE
SETTLING IRELAND
A SLIM GIRL
BOUNCING BABY
SPOILING THE PICTURE
WHITE SLAVES
THE COMING BUDGET
AWKWARD QUESTION
SUCCESSFUL APPEAL
TRUTH WILL OUT
FOLLY'S REWARD
SOWING THE SEED
LOW SPIRITS
BARRING THE DOOR
PAYING CONSERN
MOST SURPRISING WHEN
WON'T MARRY
COLLAR AND TIE
BAD ADVICE
MAN IN POSSESSION
TRUSTING SWEETHEART
JOINT CONSERN
THE BUILDING TRADE
SIMPLY KILLING
OF NO ACCOUNT
BLAMELESS LIFE
EATING HUMBLE PIE
UNSETTLED STATE
BENEATH HER DIGNITY
FLAT RACING
OUT OF SEASON
FIRST CLASS
ADDLED EGGS
ANCIENT MARINER
A TENDER STEAK
FAIR GAME
USING SOAP
NATURE'S AWAKENING
DEMAND EXCEEDS SUPPLY
OUT AND RUN

3,073 CASH PRIZES THIS WEEK

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST AND LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "Man in Possession," and take the letters "I" and "O," using the word "Rent" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet "Indicates Rent Owing." From the example "Awkward Question," the Bullet "Answered Reluctantly" can be formed.

Again, if you choose the example "Most Surprising When," using the letter "M" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet, "Melodrama Without Murder."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition, are in no way debarred from winning again.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see the "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, March 25th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(77) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 39.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL" dated March 28th.

Closing date, Wednesday, March 25th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(77) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 39.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 77," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

The Result of this Competition will appear in our issue dated April 11th.

For Rules, etc., see opposite page.

RESULT OF 74TH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £500:—

Mr. J. H. WALTER,
22, Desmond Road, Eastbourne.

Example—IN PARLIAMENT.
Bullet—PROGRESS MERELY "REPORTED."

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

Mr. A. J. GROOM,
4, Eastbourne Villas,
West Grove,
Woodford, Essex.

Example—FOND EMBRACE.
Bullet—FOLLOWS DIAMOND CLASP.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:—

Mr. FRANK SMART,
28, Water Lane,
Brixton, London, S.W.

Example—RETIRING DISPOSITION.
Bullet—SOUTH AMERICAN PRESIDENTS.

20 Prizes of £2 10s. Awarded as follows:

Mr. RAMSBOTTOM, 14, Willow Street, Accrington:
THE NEW MANAGER—MANY SHAKING "HANDS."
Mr. W. BROWN, 73, Northgate Street, South Shields:
HUBBY'S OPINION—"POKER" ISN'T BLUFF.
Mr. E. CORKER, 40, Stainton Road, Sheffield:
MAKING FACES—"SMILE"—PHOTOGRAPHER SAYS.
Mr. G. G. LAMB, 20, Eastbourne Gardens, Whitley Bay.
WEATHERED IN SMILES—"NEVER" SUSPECTS SOMETHING.
Mr. J. W. BENSON, 73, Grange Road, Central Vaults, Birkenhead:
TASTES DIFFER—SWEETHEARTS DISCOVER AFTERWARDS.
Mrs. E. J. WILLIAMS, 7, Coleshill St., Flint, N. Wales:
BEST DEFENCE TO SLANDER—CONTEMPT.
Mr. F. HARRISON, Ellerslie, Whalley Rd., Accrington, Lancs.:
BAD BILLS SUGGEST WRONG ACTS.
Mr. R. M. KERR, 3, Urfa Terrace, South Shields:
SPEAKING HER MIND—"PARTY" PREVENTS NATION.
Mrs. V. KEETLEY, 5, Thorsby Terr., New St., Dinnington, Rotherham:
TAKING WRONG TURNING—WRITER'S ELBOW NUDGED.
Mr. G. F. TAYLOR, Woodlea, Marton S.O., Yorks.:
RETIRING DISPOSITION—SAUSAGE IN ROLL.
Miss EDITH WARNER, 24, Stoughton Drive N., Leicester:
BEST DEFENCE—START MODERATION EARLY.
Mr. R. BAILEY, 64, Sandilands Rd., Bagley's Lane, Fulham:
MAKING FACES—CLOCK, COLD MORNINGS.
Mrs. W. CHRISTIE, 9, Everthorpe Rd., East Dulwich, S.E.:
MOST DISAPPOINTING WHEN—"PEACH" BRINGS "GOOSEBERRY."
Mr. J. GRIFFITH, Secondary School, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent:
MAKING FACES AFTER CARICATURING SCHOOLMASTER.
Mrs. O. DRAGE, 75, High Street, Olney, Bucks:
COMMANDS RESPECT—MUSEUM WHEN RAINING.
Miss J. HEWITT, 40, Alexandra Road, Hornsey:
WREATHED IN SMILES—HONEYMOONERS THINK EVERYBODY.
Mr. H. PATTERSON, Rose Lane, Kelso, N.B.:
MAKING FACES—MOTHER TELEGRAPHING MANNERS.
Mr. M. F. SCHOFIELD, Journalist, Cappawhite, Co. Tipperary:
IN PARLIAMENT—ASSENT ASSISTS ASCENT.
Mr. C. COPY GOULD, 9, Waterworks Road, Sunderland:
NEVER ENDED—EMPLOYEE'S RELATIVES' DEATHS.
Mr. C. HOLFORD, Municipal Offices, Town Hall Widnes:
RAISING THE DUST—ENTERPRISING VACUUM AGENT.

50 PRIZEWINNERS OF £1 EACH.

BEVAN, G., 45, Earl Road, Bermondsey.
BROADHURST, G. S., 14, St. Margaret's Ter., Plumstead, S.E.
CASEY, P., Dr., 314, Commercial Road, London, E.
CALDICOTT, W. E., 100, Walmgate, York.
CHATFIELD, C. Mrs., Richmond Ter., Seaford, Sussex.
CLANEY, A. E., 11, Upper Tooting Park Mans., Balham, S.W.
COYNE, C., 71, Havant Road, Walthamstow, N.E.
DANGERFIELD, T., 30, Beechcroft Road, Upper Tooting.
DANIELS, T., Mrs., 86, Aberdyberthi Street, Swansea.
DAVEY, R. W., Mrs., Hillside, Dinas Powis, near Cardiff.
DODDS, W., Oak Hill, Bursledon, Hants.
DRAKE, H., Miss, 7, Bay View Ter., Rhyddings, Swansea.
DUNN, D., 19, Grant Road, Battersea, S.W.
FOAD, C. B., 47a, Marlow Road, Anerley, S.E.
FORD, W., (Judge's Usher), 33, Trafalgar Drive, Bebington.
FRANK, C., 74, Oakfield Road, Southgate, N.
FREEMAN, J. R., Crown Farm, Billingborough, Lincs.
GALE, J., 8, The Avenue, Tonyrefail, S. Wales.
GIFFORD, J., Town Clerk's Office, Aberavon.
GREEN, C. W., Temperance Hotel, High Street, Bromsgrove.
HALL, Dept.-Sergt., 9, Fontburn Ter., North Shields.
HARGREAVES, J. R., care of Sime Darby, Ltd., 10, Lime Street, E.C.
HAY, C., King Harold Street, Lerwick.
HICKOX, G. A., Room 454, War Office, Whitehall, S.W.
HOLMES, G. A., 13, Torbay Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
HUTCHINGS, F., Coalway Ford, Salop.
JAMES, A. E., 21, Garrick Street, Liverpool.
KELLY, J., 28, Heath Street, Oldham Rd., Manchester.
KEVAN, J. W., 48, Grove Road, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead, Ches.
MALLON, VIOLET, 1, Yew Tree Avenue, Levenshulme, Man.
MARTIN, T. E., 23, Hector Road, Longsight, Manchester.
MARTIN, H. G., 156, Trentham Road, Garden Village, Stoke-on-Trent.
MATTHEW, A., 62, Regent Street, Willenhall.
McEVOY, G. G., 27, Cawdor Street, Hulme, Manchester.
MELLOR, W., 35, Steal Lane, Hoyland Com., near Barnsley.
MOSLEY, A. C., 4, Market Place, Market Rasen, Lincs.
MUNDAY, C., 63, Bain Street, Glasgow, E.
OWERS, E., Miss, care of Messrs. Fordreds, High Street, Birmingham.
PARKER, H., Professor, Athenæum Club, Liverpool.
PIKE, F., Inspector, 2, Erpingham Road, Putney, S.W.
RHODES, W., 190, Wellington Road South, Stockport, Ches.
ROBINSON, R., 104, Stafford Road, Wolverhampton.
SCANLAN, M., Miss, 22, Deal Street, Gt. Lever, Bolton.
STOKES, W. C., Inspector, Tram Depot, Spring Hill, B'ham.
STRETCH, H., 7, Salthill Ter., Clitheroe, Lancs.
SYMONDS, J. B., 41, Ravenswood Road, Balham, S.W.
THOMPSON, F., 56, Ripley Road, Belvedere, Kent.
TURNER, F., 5, Blenheim Square, Leeds.
WESTWOOD, E., 19, Headlands Road, Ossett, Yorks.
WINSTANLEY, A. T., 58, Albion Street, Ayres Road, Old Trafford, Manchester.

Reduced Facsimile of the
£500 "BULLETS" CHEQUE
Paid to Last Week's FIRST PRIZEWINNER.

The original of the above cheque will be on view at the premises of Messrs. Wyman and Sons, Ltd., 54 and 56, St. Mary Street, Cardiff, from Thursday, March 19th

Selection of 5s. Prize Winners

Bucknall, C. E., 1, Walden-rd., White Hart Lane Estate, N.
Budge, A. W., 27, The Wharfage, Iron Bridge, Salop.
Buglass, W., Twizell-rd., Beamish, Durham
Bullough, J., 393, Manchester-rd., Westhoughton, nr. Bolton
Burge, F. O., 78, Station-rd., Petersfield.
Burt, A., 33, Somerset-st., New Silksworth, Sunderland
Buscall, Mrs. D., 271, Wanstead Park-rd., Ilford.
Canham, J., 83, King's-rd., Erdington, Birmingham.
Carney, R., Constable, Police Station, Hetton, co. Durham.
Carruthers, W., 1381, Duke-st, Glasgow.
Carter, Maud, Scotland Farm, Dry-Drayton, nr. Cambridge
Carter, R., 36, Haward-st., Lowestoft.
Carter, R. H., 9, Portland-st., Kingsdown, Bristol.
Caulder, C. A., 19, The Hundred, Romsey, Hants.
Chadwick, Mrs., Rothwell, Kettering.
Challice, G. W., Woodbine, Cannington, Bridgwater.
Cheesman, A. C., Stoker, 6 Mess, H.M.S. "Speedwell," Portland.
Chisholm, W., 14, View-rd., Eastwood, Rotherham.
Clark, P., 13, Beltring-rd., Tunbridge Wells.
Clarke, Mrs. M., 193, Upper Brook-st., Manchester.
Clough, G. W., 21, The Burroughs, Hendon, N.W.
Cocks, E., 27, Meadow Bank-rd., Chatham.
Cohen, Miss F., 2, Cotleigh-rd., West Hampstead, N.W.
Coldwell, A., 41, Trehurst-st., Homerton.
Cole, H. V., 21, Craven-ave., Plymouth.
Cooke, P., J.P. Fiscals Dept., County Buildings, Glasgow.
Cooper, Mrs. A., The Stables, Kempshott Park, Basingstoke.
Cooper, F., 2nd Batt. King's Royal Rifles Corps, Blackdown, Frimley.
Corcoran, Mrs. A., 31, Coleridge-st., Kensington, Liverpool
Corden, E., High-st., Hucknall, Notts.
Cousens, E., Southernhays, Carlton Rd. South, Weymouth.
Cowan, E. M., 41, Cathcart-st., Greenock.
Cowdrey, C., Holmleigh, Oxted, Surrey.
Cox, A. E., Engr. Capt., 3, Ordnance-row, Portsea.
Coxwell, E. L., Barranca, Alexandria-rd., Sidmouth.
Crane, F. G., The Limes, Dunwich, Suffolk.
Crawford, J., 18, Port Glasgow-rd., Greenock.
Crawford, R., 2, Charlotte-pl., Paisley.
Cross, Mrs E., 81, Greek-st., Hull.
Croudace, R. R., 13, Addison-rd., Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne
Crowley, H. B., Langham House, Wallington.
Cruickshank, G., 382, Park-rd. North, Claughton, Birkenhead.
Cuthbert, S., c.o. Mrs. Burrows, 42, Greenfield-st., Aberystwyth.
Dacre, Mrs., 101, Mackintosh-place, Cardiff.
Dalton, H., 9, Spencer-st., Clerkenwell.
Darwell, F. R., 10, Slyne-rd., Lancaster.
Daudet, L., 53, Bruce Grove-rd., Tottenham, N.
Davies, H., c.o. 23, Railway-ter., Abercarn, nr. Newport, Mon.
Davies, D. W., Penylan, Alexandra-rd., Gorseinon, Swansea.

"BULLETS" RULES. (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. A careful study of the winning efforts from week to week will also indicate the standard of merit to be attained. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 33, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed "& Co." Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.

4. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, March 25th.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

7. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been elected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudication staff in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

Complete List of all cash and other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Racing Notes.

Of the Lincolnshire candidates, Cigar is going well, but will have to improve over a stone on his form in last year's race if he is to win now. Perhaps the best business at the present juncture is Brancepeth, who has had a splendid preparation; is a Spring horse; is handicapped on favourable terms with such as Cuthbert, and is fighting fit.

At Newbury to-day (Wednesday), good accounts are to hand of Silver Bay for the Berkshire Hurdle; Tenbury for the Newbury Steeplechase, and Castleton for the March Hurdle.

To-morrow (Thursday) Katanga should win the Greenham Hurdle; Ballyhackle the Grand National Trial Steeplechase, and Salvation the Spring Maiden Steeplechase.

At Kempton, on Friday, Ewell Lass can win the Maiden Steeplechase, Drinaugh the Arlington Steeplechase, and Himan the Pall Mall Hurdle.

Perhaps Cafe du Monde* in the Felcourt Hurdle at Lingfield may be set down as the best thing of the week. Here also Dark Collar should win the Grenstede Steeplechase.

H. DIAMOND'S GRAND NATIONAL SWEEP.

Our representative superintended the Draw for this Sweep—which took place at Lucerne on the 11th instant. He reports that everything was conducted with the strictest regard to propriety and straightforward dealing. The popularity of the Diamond sweeps seems in no degree to have diminished—rather the contrary. The Draw was attended by several other press representatives, and, as usual, by about a dozen past prize-winners, by whom the actual work of the Draw was carried out, neither Mr. Diamond nor any of his employees taking any part whatever. The names of the horses, each enclosed in a small metal tube, were drawn one at a time from a separate wheel by a little girl; a ticket was then drawn from a larger wheel by another little girl (neither of whom could speak English); the tube was opened and the name of the horse called out, the name and address on the ticket being also then read out and duly registered; and the process was continued till the whole of the prizes had been allotted.

Football Fancies.

By "McW."

I have had a whole week of nightmare, and I have longed for to-day to come to absolve my soul from blame. In asking the Editor's message boy to convey the result of our No. 12 Competition to the Chief, I told him that 15 competitors shared the £250 prize. That wicked lad, sucking the acid drop of a blameful life, got tangled up in his figures ere reaching the Editor's sanctum. He simply chipped £100 off the prize-money, and my message was distorted into an erroneous one when he announced that 15 Competitors shared the £150. We have set matters right by remitting the difference to each of the 15 fortunates. It was £250 we paid, in 15 shares of £16 13s. 4d.

Have you ever wondered as to what style of people were the fortunate winners in our Football Competitions? I have been set thinking of the matter by receiving a nice letter from Mr. J. McMullan, of 22, White Street, Belfast, who won £15 in our No. 11 Competition. "You may be sure," he writes, "it gave me a bit of a surprise, as I may tell you I have met a lot of critics who informed me that if I did win I would not get anything as I was a working man, and they added how could I expect to get something for nothing."

I would not have mentioned this letter were I not convinced that there are many critics of the type quoted by Mr. McMullan. In point of fact, I should say that 90 per cent. of the winners in our Football Competitions belong to the artisan class. Good luck to them! They are the ones who can do with the prizes.

The great thing to remember is that we pay no heed whatever to class or creed or nationality. The prizes go to the senders of the most correct coupons. All who have visited my department have gone away absolutely satisfied that everything connected with it is straight and aboveboard. I would refuse to take charge of it if it were otherwise. Come and see for yourself. You are welcome at all times, and the navvy in his working clothes will be as well received as the toff who calls in frock coat and tall hat. I am never too busy to see you, or, if I am, I have a most obliging assistant. So come along.

Copyright Table. All rights reserved.

Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, March 21st, 1914.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

	Matches played on ground of first-named Team.	Last Season's Result.	JOHN BULL	The Umpire.	Weekly Dispatch	News of The World	Sunday Chronicle	Sporting Gossip	Lettage's Weekly	Competitors' Journal
FIRST LEAGUE	Aston Villa v. Burnley	No match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Blackburn R. v. West Bromwich A.	W. Bromwich won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bradford C. v. Sheffield Wed.	Draw	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Derby County v. Oldham	Derby won	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Away	Draw	Home	Draw
	Liverpool v. Preston North End	No match	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Manchester C. v. Bolton Wanderers	Manchester C. won	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Sheffield United v. Oldham Athletic	Draw	Away	Draw	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home
	Sunderland v. Everton	Sunderland won	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Tottenham Hotspur v. Newcastle U.	Tottenham won	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Away	Home
	Middlesbrough v. Manchester United	Manchester won	Home	—	—	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home
SECOND LEAGUE	Barnsley v. Stockport County	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Blackpool v. Bristol City	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Away	Away	Home	Home	Home
	Bury v. Glossop	Bury won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Fulham v. Leicester Fosse	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Huddersfield Town v. Clapton Orient	Clapton won	Away	Away	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home
	Hull City v. Bradford	Hull City won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw
	Lincoln City v. Leeds City	Draw	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Home	Home	Away
	Notts Forest v. Birmingham	Notts F. won	Away	Draw	Home	Away	Away	Draw	Home	Home
	Wolverhampton W. v. Hull County	No match	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Away	Draw	Away	Home
	Woolwich Arsenal v. Grimsby Town	No match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
SOUTHERN LEAGUE	Bristol Rovers v. Northampton	Bristol won	Away	Away	Home	Away	—	Home	Home	Draw
	Brentford Town v. Gillingham	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Home	—	Home	Home	Home
	West Ham United v. Norwich City	West Ham won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Plymouth A. v. Watford	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Southampton v. Coventry City	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Reading v. Crystal Palace	Reading won	Home	Home	Draw	Draw	—	Home	Home	Away
	Swindon Town v. Southend United	No match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Cardiff City v. Brighton and Hove	No match	Away	Draw	Draw	Away	Draw	Home	Home	Draw
	Exeter C. v. Portsmouth	Exeter won	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Queen's Park Rangers v. Millwall	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home

WE WIRE WINNERS!

"Gale's Special"

The "SPECIAL" that Guarantees Your Success!

"It is many years since GALE'S SPECIAL first saw the light of day, and it is pleasing to see that the old standards and old reputation as a sound adviser are not only maintained but going stronger than ever. Few tips are given but that these are well on the mark can be seen by reference to its long list of successes during the past season."—*Vide The Jockey, November 22nd, 1913.*

Next Monday's issue of GALE'S SPECIAL, containing the Editor's final "double" for the "Lincoln" and "National" Handicaps, together with other selections for the current week, published at 2s. 6d., will be sent post free in plain sealed envelope upon receipt of 1s. P.O. as usual to all readers of "JOHN BULL" enclosing this paragraph.

Racing speculations to-day are similar to Stock Exchange speculations, in that they do not associate themselves with the same risk as formerly, and to the sportsman who speculates judiciously the opportunity presents itself with the opening of the Flat-Racing Season whereby he may limit his losses with a prospect of unlimited profits.

Sound judgment and reliable information are the most important factors of success in Turf speculation, and the reputation we maintained last year for definite and reliable intelligence combined with straightforward and honourable business transactions with all our subscribers should be a sufficient guarantee that sportsmen may invest fearlessly upon the information we send to them through the medium of

Gale's Primus Wire

The Most Successful Service Ever Inaugurated.

It is impossible to print a full list of selections in the space we have at our disposal, but during the month of February all subscribers to this service received:—

Wednesday, February 4th.—
WHITING, 10 to 1 agst., Won.

Tuesday, February 10th.—
ADERNA, 5 to 1 agst., Won.

Wednesday, February 18th.—
SCHWARMER, 6 to 1 agst., Won.

Thursday, February 26th.—
FINCHALE, 4 to 1 agst., Won.

The charge for this Special Primus Wire is TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS PER MESSAGE. In no circumstances whatever is more than one selection ever mentioned on this message. It amounts to this, ONE SELECTION ONLY—THE BEST SELECTION THAT MONEY, BRAINS AND INFLUENCE CAN PROCURE

The next selection on this GALE'S PRIMUS WIRE will be sent from Kempton Park, on Friday, March 20th and

As a Special Offer to JOHN BULL readers we will send this Special Wire upon receipt of £10, instead of the usual charge of £25.

and UNLESS THE SELECTION SENT OUT IS SUCCESSFUL, AND AT REASONABLE ODDS, WE GUARANTEE TO SEND OUR NEXT TATTERSALL'S RING WIRE ENTIRELY FREE OF CHARGE. On the other hand, should the selection win at the odds of not less than 8 to 1 against, subscribers will of course, forward the balance of £15.

Note that our ONLY address is:—

"Gale's Special,"

Ruskin Buildings, Birmingham

Telegraphic Address: "WINNERS, Birmingham."

THE TOTALISATOR

LUCERNE, Switzerland.

Following are names of a few Winners of Totalisator Prizes.

£1,000	won by	E. H. Hans, Esq., 77a, Larden Road, Acton, London, W.
£1,421	" "	E. W. Eades, Esq., 1, Pepperoroot Street, Gravesend.
£1,122	" "	A. Troughton, Esq., 12, Central Markets, London, E.C.
£501	" "	A. E. de Sousa, Esq., 44, Colby Road, Gipsy Hill, London, S.E.
£225 8s.	" "	Lord Auckland, The Burrow, Howard Road, Bournemouth.
£1,012	" "	Mrs. Burgess, 43, Ridgmount Gardens, London, W.
£132 16s.	" "	John Cotton, Esq., Golf Hotel, Crail, Scotland.
£1,042	" "	Mrs. Miller, Littlewick Green, Maidenhead.
£1,000	" "	Miss W. M. Everitt, 7, Admiralty Road, Portsmouth.

(Names published by permission.)

OVER £40,000 HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED.

The following papers have written complimentary opinions about The Totalisator Lucerne Switzerland:—Standard, Irish Times, Daily Express, Irish Independent, Morning Advertiser, Globe, Winning Post, John Bull, Sporting Life, Pall Mall Gazette, Bradford Daily Telegraph, London Mail, etc.

£10,000 GUARANTEED

ON THE

DERBY.

"JOHN BULL" says:—"The Totalisator's Guarantee is 'GILT EDGED.'" Terms free on receipt of name and address on penny postcard mentioning this paper to:—

THE TOTALISATOR,

LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND. (Estd. 1908.)

MANAGER . . . H. CULLERNE-BOWN.

H. HAMILTON & CO.,

BINNINGEN, SWITZERLAND.

The Oldest Established Football Accountants in the World.

Send a post card (postage 1d.) for the most liberal price list issued. But no need to wait for coupons, write your commissions on plain paper.

"John Bull" says—Messrs. H. Hamilton & Co. are thoroughly

Selected matches for March 21st 1914.

Manchester C.	v. Bolton W.	W'h'pton W.	v. Notts County
Sheffield U.	v. Oldham A.	Bristol R.	v. Northampton
Huddersfield	v. Clapton O.	Cardiff C.	v. Brighton & H.
Lincoln C.	v. Leeds C.	Reading	v. Crystal Palace
Notts Forest	v. Birmingham	Hamilton A.	v. Dundee

Liverpool v. Preston

Single teams or any combination may be backed.

RACING STUD SPECIAL High Rd., Turnham Green W. Every Monday. Post free 8s.

Gives FOUR BIG SHIPS, also the LINCOLN, G. NAT., and L'OOL CUP GEMS. Races at our mercy. Last season 52 weeks gave 76 wins out of 105 tips 201 points to good. "John Bull" says: "Run on straight lines." A trial will convince. Post 8s.

HARRY APPLETON

Makes daily settlements a speciality.

3, St. Thomas's Street, London Bridge, S.E.

2, Gayfield Place, Edinburgh, and Lucerne.

JOHN BULL PEN COUPON. Value 1/4.

By sending this Coupon with P.O. 2/6 and loose 1d. stamp for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a John Bull Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen. Additional Coupons up to 12 from "John Bull" or "Mary Bull," any dates, may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 1d. off the price. You may send 13 Coupons, and P.O. for 1/6 only and loose 1d. stamp for postage. Address Pen Dept. "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C. Mar. 21st, 1914.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

NO LIMIT

NO LIMIT

DOUGLAS STUART

LIESTAL, SWITZERLAND.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS ONLY.

THE REAL NO LIMIT FIRM.

NO LIMIT on S.P. or FUTURE EVENTS.
NO LIMIT on S.P. DOUBLES or ACCUMULATORS.
NO LIMIT on S.P. MINOR RACES.
NO LIMIT on Place Betting.
When Favourite starts "Odds On."
NO LIMIT, any Race, WIN or PLACE.

Unlimited "Double Event" Book on

LINCOLN AND NATIONAL.

NO WAY BARRED.

Starting Price Business a Speciality.
No Extra Expense or Inconvenience.

LOST TELEGRAMS PAID IN FULL.

Don't waste time writing for lists or quotations. ALL COMMISSIONS executed at London Market Price prevailing when letter is postmarked.
No "Price unobtainable" circular ever issued.

ANY FEASIBLE SYSTEM UNDERTAKEN. NO COMMISSION CHARGED.

SPECIAL FACILITIES for COLONIAL CLIENTS.

For CREDIT ACCOUNTS Only

Write to

DOUGLAS STUART, 102, NEW OXFORD STREET, LONDON.

NO LIMIT

NO LIMIT

Printed and Published for the Proprietors, (JOHN BULL, LTD.,) by ODHAMS LIMITED, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.
Agents for the Colonies—GORDON & GOTCH, LTD., London. Australia, Canada, etc. South Africa—CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, LTD.
Also Imperial News Co., Ltd., Canada.
Applications for Advertisement Space in "JOHN BULL" must be made to Messrs. ODHAMS LIMITED (Advertisement Department), 93-94, Long Acre, London, W.C. Telephone: Gerrard 2595.